



Ballroom Beat

Official Monthly Publication of Piedmont NC USABDA, Chapter 619

Send news and views to Trudy Atkins, Editor (trudy@newhomeguides.com)

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From the President...

As your new president...at least for the next month, I am pleased to report that the Piedmont Triad now has TWO ballroom dance chapters as of this month. Chapter 619, established a



Trudy Atkins

decade ago and reactivated by Wayne Crowder in 1996, is now based in Winston-Salem, serving the western half of the Piedmont. It has spawned Chapter 692, based in Greensboro, to serve the eastern half of the Triad.

I will continue to serve as president of Chapter 691 until assets are divided. Meanwhile, both chapters will appoint a steering committee to prepare a slate of officers to serve each organization.

Although the expansion into two chapters has taken place rapidly, the idea has been discussed for several years. During our board meeting August 28, Hubert Barney made a motion to appoint a committee composed of Tim Stinson, chairman, Marcia Barney and Ellie Dolata, to survey the membership in regard to organizing a second chapter.

The committee mailed questionnaires to every member. These were counted at a board meeting September 25 by Marie Crowder, Martha Plyler and Bob Jordan. A total of 79 members were in favor of two chapters, 17 were opposed, and nine were undecided. Subsequently, the board unanimously agreed to a recommendation that the chapter be split along geographic lines, effective as soon as our inventory can be divided.

As I noted at the dance in Clemmons, USABDA members from both chapters are welcome at all functions sponsored by either chapter, just as before. In fact, the only change will be that we now have two administrations which may encourage more dancing activities than ever before.

If you have any questions, please contact any member of the board. And please VOLUNTEER to serve in our separate chapters. With a smaller geographic area to cover, we hope there will be greater participation in behind-the-scenes activities which are necessary for every dance.

If everyone does a little, we can all dance a lot. And dancing is what it's all about.

Calendar Notes

October 10 - Tea Dance, The Grange, Greensboro
4:30 p.m. Quick Step lesson - *Jim Brady, Classically Dance*;
Dancing 5 - 7 p.m. Music: The Johnsons.

October 24 - Tea Dance, Skateland, Clemmons
5:30 p.m. Rumba lesson, *Alonzo Boschulte, Fred Astaire of Winston-Salem*;
Dancing 6 - 8 p.m. Music: The Barneyes

SPOTLIGHT on Emmy Bagwell



Emmy Bagwell is the diminutive figure, beautifully gowned, who glides across the ballroom floor at our tea dances in Clemmons. Her charming accent bespeaks her German origin although she has lived in the United States 36 years. Born near Frankfurt, she served in the German Luftwaffe during World War II. (Space does not permit the stories she might tell of her experiences during the war and the Occupation.) Her marriage to a Tar Heel soldier brought her to Winston-Salem in 1968. When her husband, Douglas, died in 1987, she "stayed home" for four years until one day when she saw a television ad for ballroom dance lessons. "I decided to go and see what happens there," she said, "and I'm still there!" Her daughter lives in New Mexico, but she feels fortunate to have two sons and three of her five grandchildren close by in Winston-Salem. It's hard to believe that Emmie has passed a significant birthday... evidence indeed that ballroom dancing keeps you vital and youthful.

A Good Name - The Bible says "A good name is better than precious ointment," so please help our new Chapter 692 select a good one. Nominations will be listed in our Nov. newsletter and voted on at the tea dance at the Grange Nov. 14. All USABDA members are invited to get out their lexicon and come up with a nomination. The winner will receive a membership in USABDA. Mail nominations to Trudy Atkins, PO Box 7344, Greensboro, NC 27417 or e-mail to trudy@newhomeguides.com

Four Mayors Proclaim Ballroom Dance Week

The mayors of Greensboro, Winston-Salem, High Point and Burlington all declared September 19-26 as Ballroom Dance Week.

In fact, when Rockie and Mary Lou Troxler received the proclamation at the Burlington City Council meeting, Council members were so interested, they asked the couple questions for more than a quarter hour.

The Week began with an excellent quick step workshop taught by Wayne and Marie Crowder at Gold's Gym in Winston-Salem. Monday through Thursday the waltz, foxtrot, cha cha and tango were taught by Tim Saunders (Greensboro Ballroom), Alan Berryfill (Dance Arts), Jim Brady (Classically Dance), Sasha (Fred Astaire/Greensboro), Heather Bowman (Biltmore DanceSport, High Point), Tony Econ (at Gold's Gym), Jim Brady (in the Jaycee Ballroom) and Fred Astaire/Winston-Salem. Wayne and Marie Crowder concluded the week with a swing lesson for a great group of beginning and advanced students at Skateland.

September Hostings

Steering Committees Seek Nominations

Where there was one, now there are two USABDA chapters in Piedmont North Carolina.

A steering committee has been appointed in each chapter to find good members who will serve as chapter officers including president, vice-president (president-elect), secretary, treasurer, and three directors-at-large.

Members interested in serving should send a written note to Winston-Salem Steering Committee chair Marcia Barney (HMBBar@aol.com or PO Box 24022, Winston-Salem 27114-4022) or to Greensboro Steering Committee Chair Trudy Atkins (trudy@newhomeguides.com or PO Box 7344, Greensboro, 27417).

Our Dancing Instructors...

Jim Brady, who will teach our quick step lesson at the tea dance October 10 at the Grange in Greensboro, began dancing when he was eight. "Our entire family danced," he says. "We would rent a hall, hire a drummer and piano, and dance forever." A native of Louisville, KY, he has been teaching for 42 years. He moved his studio, Classically Ballroom, from Charlotte two years ago when his wife was named curator of the High Point Historical Museum. His hobbies are woodworking and "a thousand other things." Yes, he competes, but "only with my students."



*Jim Brady
Classically Yours*



*Alonzo Boschulte
Fred Astaire/Winston-Salem*

Alonzo Boschulte (Fred Astaire of Winston-Salem) will teach a lesson in rumba at Skateland in Clemmons October 24. He comes from a family that loves to dance, especially his father who dances calypso and night club style, but it was during a four-year stint in the military that he became "hooked" on dancing. Encouraged to train as an instructor as well as participate in dance competitions, he began teaching four years ago. Only problem he has is that between teaching and competitions, he doesn't get home often to visit his brother and two sisters in Ohio and Maryland.

A special "thank you" to Jackie Shelton, Z.I. Strader and Chuck and Marcia Ware who served as hosts for our September tea dances at the Grange and at Skateland.

We also appreciate those who brought "treats," including Bob and Mary Beth Jordan, Bruce Gibson, Fran Randolph, Lynette and Smitherman, Marcia and Hubert Barney, Ann and Jim Astin and Trudy Atkins at the Grange; and Bob and Mary Beth Jordan, Emmy Bagwell, Hubert and Marcia Barney and Bob and Lynn Edwards at the Skateland.



Jessica Shaw and Andrew Pyle



Dale Perry and Paul Macy

Suggestions, Please - If you have suggestions for CDs for the Greensboro Central Library Collection, please contact Lib Johnson (libsjohnson@bellsouth.net). The CD's will be purchased with a \$500 grant from the Greensboro Community Foundation, the second grant USABDA has received to establish the collection.

Halloween Ball - The Mountain 'Vampire' Chapter has invited USABDA members in the Triad to a Halloween Costume Ball Saturday, October 16, at the Wytheville Community Center in Virginia. Linda Stancill will teach a tango lesson at 7:30 p.m., followed by social dancing from 8:30 - 11 p.m. Bring a treat for the Refreshment Table and you will be entered in drawing. For more information, please call 783-5402.

College Dancing - Wayne and Marie Crowder will begin teaching ballroom dance to students, faculty and staff at Greensboro College in November. The help of USABDA members is needed for the Monday night practice sessions which are planned November 8, 15, 22 and 29. More information will be forthcoming in the November newsletter.

At the Beginners Ball - Top left, Jessica Shaw, law student at Wake Forest University, with Andrew Pyle, a senior graduating in December from WFU; top right, from Greensboro, Dale Perry with Paul Macy, who plans to surprise his girlfriend with his dancing expertise when she returns from Europe; center photo, Dr. Charlie and Florence Phillips, Greensboro newcomers to the dance floor who have already joined a dance club; and bottom, Wayne and Marie offer the men a new dance step at the Beginners Ball. (Photos by Marcia Barney).



Dr. Charlie and Florence Phillips



A new dance step at the Beginners Ball