



Ballroom Beat

Official Monthly Publication of Piedmont NC USA Dance Inc., Chapter 6019
Vol. 12, No 9 September 2005 Marcia 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,

Get ready for we are entering a busy time of the year. During the month of September we will complete two six-week Introductory Classes. Then the National Ballroom Dance Week classes, taught by local professional instructors, will follow. On September 25 new and experienced dancers will get together at Skateland for our annual Beginners Ball. Help someone get started dancing with these NBDW events. Reservation forms for these classes are on our website or call Marcia at 712-8183.



On October 8 we will have our Black Tie Dinner and Dance at Benton Convention Center. Now is the time to get your reservations in for this event. There's still time to get a table together.

October 22 is the Showcase of Dancers. This is a great time for partners to show their skills before an appreciative audience. It is also a good time to invite friends to come and see you dance.

As you can see, the next two months are filled with dance opportunities. Come, bring a guest, and enjoy the dancing.

Shall we dance!

Charles Goode

National Ballroom Dance Week

September 19 through 25 is National Ballroom Dance Week and Piedmont NC USA Dance will be celebrating it in a big way! From Monday, September 19 through Thursday, the 22nd we will offer nightly beginner lessons taught by some outstanding local professional instructors. On Sunday we will culminate with a 5th lesson at our annual Beginner's Ball at Skateland.

Tickets for the "package" of 4 nightly lessons plus the Sunday Swing lesson and Ball are just \$30 per person. Partners are suggested, but not required. Invite someone to give ballroom dancing a whirl! Even offer to take lessons with them – you're sure to get your \$30 worth in tips from the pros, too.

Bill and Marla Sparks (rt.), two new dancers, will be attending.

Nightly lessons will cover Waltz, Fox Trot, Cha Cha, and Rumba and will be held at Kathy Marino's Studio in Clemmons (2668 Lewisville/Clemmons Road - a few hundred yards south of Cephis Drive and Skateland.)



September Tea Dance

Beginners Ball

Sunday – September 25

Skateland, Clemmons

Swing Lesson

By Tony Econ from 5:30 – 6:00 PM

General Dancing – 6:00 – 8:00 PM -THE floor

Music by Hubert and Marcia Barney

Hosts: Linda & Tom Siaton

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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

Frank Redner, (right with Mary) a friend of Mary Hooks, joined us in August and is participating in our Monday Introductory Class Series.

Fred Lanning, a friend of Linda MacMichael, joined us in August.



Welcome Guests

Krista Cordell (rt. with West Smitherman) a dancer from Fred Astaire in Greensboro, visited us on August 28. Please come again, Krista!

Please come again!



Mark Lichtenberger, (left with Rosalia Whitney) a member of Heartland USA Dance, attended

our August Tea Dance. We were delighted to see friends **Wes and Lynette Smitherman**, Heartland USA Dance members, at our August Tea Dance.

Barbara Newman (right)



came to our August Tea Dance as a guest of John Cavello.

Sheila Sears (left with David Hill) visited for the first



time in August as a guest of Dora Crawford.

Ann Seats, a guest of Paul Riedl, also attended our August Tea Dance. We hope you'll return in September, Ann.

2005 at a Glance

Tea Dance and Lesson – Every fourth Sunday – (Except December on the third Sunday) - 5:30 – 8:00 PM Skateland, Clemmons
 Sept. 16-25 – National Ballroom Dance Week
 September 25 – **Beginners Ball** - Swing Lesson from 5:30 – 6:00 Dance from 6 – 8 PM
 October 8 – Black Tie Dinner/Dance, Benton Convention Center, Winston-Salem
 October 22 – Showcase of Dancers, Southfork Community Center
 November 27 – Holiday Premier Promenade, Skateland, Clemmons 5:30 – 8 PM
 Officer Elections
 December 18 – Christmas Dance, Skateland

Truisms

- If you want your dancing to get better, spend three times as much time practicing as you do in class.
- Knowledge without application is as a dance without music.
- Grasp the form, the figures will follow.
- The fingers of your form are molding you figures ceaselessly.
- Learning to dance is like aging: It looks so easy in retrospect.
- Ballroom dancing is organized knowledge. Learning to dance is organized chaos.
- The same figure/step seen from two different sets of eyes can appear totally different.
- A new dancer with an enthusiastic attitude is more enjoyable than an experienced dancer who is bored.
- It is as easy to dream a dance figure as it is difficult to perfect one.
- With a bit of excitement and a dash of self-confidence a new dancer can go a long way!

BJ and Roy Foster (right) have made their Black Tie Dinner Dance Reservations. Have you made yours?



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Teaching the World to Dance

Call for Nominations

In November we elect new officers for the coming calendar year. Each officer serves for one year. To insure that we have an experience person as President, the Vice President succeeds to the Presidency for the following year. Offices for which nominations are sought are:

- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- 3 Directors at Large

If you are interested in an office or have a suggestion of someone you think would be a good officer, notify Nominating Committee Chair Tim Stinson (*right*) or any member of the Nominating Committee (Past Presidents Will Parker, Martha Plyler, Hubert Barney, Ellis Pardue, Marcia Barney.) Committee members would also be happy to explain the duties of the officers to interested members.



Who is the Refreshments Committee?

You, me, and every other member of Piedmont NC USA Dance comprise our Refreshment Committee. Refreshment Chair Linda Siaton is responsible for insuring that we have paper products and soft drinks at each tea dance. The “treats” are brought by any member who wishes to contribute. *John Dorosk and Hilda Forrest (right.) frequently bring refreshments to our Tea Dances.*



What makes good dance treats? Finger food is best; however, forks are available when some benevolent member brings cake or similar food. Things to avoid are foods containing garlic, onion, or other potentially olefactorily offensive ingredients since we dance fairly close together and not everyone tastes each offering. Foods that tend to drip onto the floor, such as thin dips, can also be a problem. Treats can be sweet, salty, sour, even spicy – just as long as they are delicious!

Don’t wait to be asked. Bring a plate of your favorite snack food to the dance to be enjoyed by all.

Short Survey Results

Those attending our August Tea completed a short survey. Here’s what we liked:

- Our favorite dance is the Waltz.
- Second place is a crowded arena of Cha Cha, Fox Trot, Rumba, and Swing. (Did our emphasis on these dances in conversation affect the results?)
- We also like Tango, Mambo, Samba, Bolero, and Quick Step.
- Suggestions for Tea Dance lessons: Waltz, Cha Cha, Mambo, Rumba, Bolero, Quick Step, Salsa, Viennese Waltz, Samba, Hustle, Merengue, Swing, Fox Trot
- Most of the guys and most ladies would attend a November Technique Workshop
- Most would attend a December Jive Workshop

The music program at our Tea Dances will reflect these preferences. Other activities are being scheduled by your Board.

Thanks to all who participated. Don’t wait for a survey, *your* input is always appreciated.

Special Invitations and Happenings:

Ballroom Dancing on ABC: On September 20 at 8:30 PM a rematch of the “Dancing With the Stars” finale featuring Kelly Monaco and John O’Hurley will be shown. Be sure not only to watch, but to vote as the popularity of this episode could dramatically influence future programming.

Heartland USA Dance – Sunday, September 11, Masquerade Ball, 7 – 10 PM, Grange in Greensboro. Info: 584-8710

Mtn. Empire USA-Dance – Third Saturdays, Wythville Community Center, VA. On September 17 - Lesson at 7:30 Dance - 8:30 – 11 PM. Info: (276) 783-5402.

Winston-Salem Dance Forum –Saturday, September 17, South Fork Community Center Ballroom, 8 – 11 PM. Great music. 712-8183



- Ø To the incomparable Hubert Barney for music, lights, camera, proofing...you know the rest.
- Ø To Natasha Gore for arranging our great Tea Dance instruction.
- Ø To Don & Linda Rankin (*selecting videos on the left*) and Tom & Linda (*on the right in picture at the left*) Siaton for hosting our August Tea Dance.
- Ø To Linda Siaton for taking such good care of our extensive video library.
- Ø To Don & Linda Rankin, John Dorosk, Al & Ivete Narizzano, Tom and Linda Siaton, and the Barneys for the treats at our August Dance.
- Ø To Eleanor Pardue for helping with the questionnaire at our August Tea Dance. To all who completed the form!
- Ø To everyone who brings a spirit of fun and a love of dance to our dances!

Check our fabulous web site: www.ballroom-dancing.org for regular dance opportunities, registration forms, and other valuable information.

Notes of Appreciation:

- Ø To our terrific Webmaster John Clark for his continued interest and assistance. John’s other website is www.Louis-and-Clark.com.
- Ø To Wayne and Marie Crowder for the magnificent Mambo Workshop on August 21. Congratulations to Wayne on his appointment as Executive Secretary of the United States Imperial Society of Teachers of Dance!
- Ø To Jeff Trent and Amber Reich for the enjoyable Cha Cha lesson on August 28.

Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

Remember:

- To get those interested and interesting non-yet-dancer friends signed up for the September 19 - 25 **Beginner Lessons!** Reservation form inside!
- To make your **Black Tie** Dinner/Dance reservations. Invite those out-of-town guests, too,
- All new Piedmont NC USA Dance members are entitled to a 6-week **Introductory Class** free.
- To bring a treat to our September Beginners Ball!

“Ballroom Beat”
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