



Ballroom Beat

Official Monthly Publication of Piedmont NC USA Dance Inc., Chapter 6019
Vol. 13, No 2 February 2006 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,

One of the major benefits of our chapter is our monthly Ballroom Sundays.

These dances, held the fourth Sunday of each month, offer a tremendous opportunity to learn a new step or new technique to make our dancing more enjoyable. These free lessons are from a variety of outstanding instructors and cover the spectrum of ballroom dances.

The music at our dances is superb. The dances are varied with special emphasis given to those dances we have indicated are favorites.

The abundant wooden floor offers plenty of space for us to make our dancing expressive or to practice a challenging step alone.

The friends we meet and make are a bonus and the refreshments are always tempting.

All levels of expertise are exhibited at our dances. Today's beginners will be tomorrows accomplished dancers. Get smarter, get more exercise, have more fun – attend our Ballroom Sundays!

See you on February 26!

May Neal



New Directory

The 2006 Piedmont NC USA Dance Directory of Members will be available at our February 26 dance. Members who attend the dance should pick up their copy as they enter.

The purpose of the Directory is to make it easier for us to pass along dance ideas to each other and to learn about expanded dance related activities. In short, to enhance communications among members.

The 2006 Directory will allow you to contact newer members such as Dick and Helen Heck (*right*).



E-mail addresses will be included in the listings as available. If you would like yours listed, send a note, by February 15, to your editor at PiedmontNCUSABDA@aol.com. Likewise, if you have moved or changed phone numbers in 2005 and suspect your Editor does not already know this, either call the number or send a note containing the correct information to the address listed on the masthead.

**Ballroom Sunday
February 26, 2006**
Skateland, Clemmons

Lesson – Foxtrot
With Tony Econ

*General Dancing – 6:00 - 8:00 PM -THE floor
Music by Hubert and Marcia Barney
Hosts: Linda & Tom Siaton*

Dance Sponsors: Hubert & Marcia Barney

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Truisms

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 Guests

Please come again!

Wes & Lynette Smitherman (*Wes is shown at right dancing with Franzi Brown*) friends from Heartland USA Dance visited us on January 22.



Franzi Brown (*above with Wes*), a Heartland USA Dance members also visited on January 22.

Margaret Norton (*right*), another Heartland Friend also visited on January 22.



We are always delighted to

see **Robert and Karen Fogleman** (*Karen is dancing with John Cavello in photo on the left*) at our Ballroom Sundays.



Doris Kiser visited again after an absence of

several months. Hurry back, Doris!

2006 at a Glance

February 26 – Ballroom Sunday, Skateland
5:30 - 6 Foxtrot Lesson with Tony Econ
6 – 8 Dance, Dance, Dance

March 26 – Ballroom Sunday, Skateland
5:30 – 6 Rumba Lesson with Zach & Zenaida
Lawrence of All the Right Moves
6 – 8 Dance some more.

Ballroom Sunday Monthly Dance & Lesson –
Every fourth Sunday

(Except December on the third Sunday) -
5:30 – 8:00 PM Skateland, Clemmons

March 26, April 23, May 28, June 25, July 23,
August 27, September 24, October 22, November
26, December 17.

-Never doubt the power of practice by committed people to change the way they dance.

-Someday is not the time to dance.

-Never confuse your expertise with your potential.

-If you treat a dance partner as he appears to be, you make him worse than he is. If you treat a dance partner as if he already were what he could be, you make him what he should be.

-No one cares how well you dance until you dance with or for them.

-All of us who dance are seen to be insane to those who cannot hear the music.

-Any time you feel the urge to apologize, smile and both you and your partner will feel better for it.

-Sometimes my dancing is a complete success – the audience is just a failure.

-Inspiration comes, but practice lingers.

-Dancing is like a parade – the beauty queen sits in the back of the convertible smiling and waving while he drives the car.

-There is a road from the ear to the feet that does not go through the intellect. Sometimes it does meander through the heart.

-The point of good dance music is not how many numbers you move your feet to, but how many numbers move your feet.

-If you want to improve your dancing improve your mindset.

Tips and Tidbits:

The top Dance Films of all time:

1. *Shall We Dance* (1937)
2. *Dirty Dancing*
3. *Shall We Dance?* (1996)
4. *Saturday Night Fever*
5. *Strictly Ballroom*
6. *Mad Hot Ballroom*
7. *Singin' in the Rain*
8. *Center Stage*
9. *Fame*
10. *Save the Last Dance*
11. *Flashdance*

Have Hospitality Chairs Polly and Max Toney (right) seen all of these movies? Have you?

Does anyone have one they'd like to donate to our video library?



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Teaching the World to Dance

Why USA Dance

There are numerous ballroom dance clubs in Winston-Salem and the surrounding area. Each offers a wonderful venue for dancing and socializing with really nice people. Each has a unique “personality” and environment. So where does USA Dance fit into this subculture of dancing?

The purpose of USA Dance is to promote ballroom dancing. That means encouraging more people to start dancing as well as providing opportunities for those who already dance to expand their ability to, appreciation of, and interest in dancing.

To encourage more people to dance we offer introductory ballroom dance lessons as well as provide brochures listing local studios and how to contact them. We publicize events featuring ballroom dancing and produce a Showcase of Dancers each year to introduce others to our art.

For those who already know the joy of ballroom dancing we offer many exciting opportunities for enhancing their skills. Each month we provide a free lesson with our 4th Sunday Ballroom Sunday. Members and guests



are able to both learn a new step or figure and get better acquainted with one of the local dance professionals. Our instructors are talented enough and varied enough so that just about any budget and personality need can be filled. While our organization endorses no specific studio or instructor, our members are quick to sing the praises of their instructors.

We offer workshops for different level of dancers, from beginner to gold dancer, at prices far below their value. Our ever-expanding video library allows members to improve at their own pace and at whatever time they choose. We even offer a catalogue if you'd like to order your own copy of a video. Video librarian Tim Moore (*right with wife Debbie*) is delighted to check out videos to members for a month free.



The two factors most important to a ballroom dance are the floor and the music. We have an exceptional place to dance. Skateland offers a vast, wooden floor with an outstanding sound system. Our Phantom DJ voice overlays help the newer dancers decide what dance to choose and provides experienced dancers a few seconds to choose their partner. Our music chair keeps abreast of current trends in ballroom dance music while keeping a keen ear attuned to the wishes and needs of our dancers.

While we are certainly sociable at USA Dance, our purpose extends much farther. We are a volunteer organization whose members love to dance and welcome others who also wish to enjoy and enhance their art.

It's Just Swing

It sounds simply uncomplicated until we realize that there are a great variety of dances loosely titled Swing. When our dance programs say “Sw” for Swing, we mean East Coast or Triple Time Swing (*that's what Travis and Linda Jackson are doing above*). However, there are numerous kinds of swing. Some of the others are West Coast Swing, Jive, Single Time Swing, Linday Hop, Jitterbug, Rock 'n Roll, Shag, Saint Louis Shag, Charleston, and Back Charleston.

Special Invitations and Happenings:

Dancing with the Stars: Be sure to watch ABC on Thursday nights at 8 for this outstanding program. Tell all your friends/relatives/acquaintances about the program, too. It is a great way to get nondancers familiar with the possibilities of ballroom dancing. And, don't forget to vote – that's what keeps such great programming on the tube!

Mt. Empire USA Dance. February 18, Wytheville, Va. Bolero lesson 7:30-8:30, Dancing until 11 PM. (276) 783-5402 for details.

Glenn Miller Orchestra – February 20, Cross Creek Country Club, Mount Airy, Sponsored by the Surry Arts Council. \$50 per person. 336-786-7998 or www.Surryarts.org.

2006 Triangle Open – February 25 – a good way for those not so sure about competition to try it for the first time or to view a real dance competition. The cost is low, the competition fun and friendly, the event is nearby in Durham. For details check www.dancingwithwolves.org/triangle/.

Smoky Mountain Dancesport Championships – February 11 & 12, Downtown Marriott, Knoxville, Tenn. Check it out now at www.usabda-knoxville.us.

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.

Ø To the incomparable Hubert Barney for music, lights, camera, proofing.

Ø To Nathan Foreman (*left*) for the enlightening and enjoyable Tango lesson at our January Dance. Nathan can be reached at 327-2985 if you would like further instruction in Tango or any of the other ballroom dances. He is also well known as an outstanding Argentine Tango Instructor.

Ø To Tom & Linda Siaton for hosting our January Ballroom Sunday.

Ø To Jerry Evans & Martha Plyler, Don & Linda Rankin, Helen and Dick Heck, Margaret Norton, Tom & Linda Siaton, Franzi Brown, and the Barneys for treats at our January Dance.

Ø To Don Rankin for “pitching in” and helping with whatever needs doing!

Ø To all (*such as Elaine Wiles shown at left leaving with a big smile and tired feet*) who brought a spirit of camaraderie and fun to our January Ballroom Sunday!



Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

Be sure to watch “Dancing With the Stars” on Thursdays!

Keep an ear peeled and an eye open for the line dances (Ski Bumpus, Charleston, Too Too) at our dances. Sometimes it's fun to dance without a partner- or a whole group of partners!

Pick up your Membership Directory on February 26. (Report changes by 2/15.)

Our first DVDs will be added to our Video Library on February 26: Advanced II American Rumba with Ron Montez and Advanced II American Cha Cha with Ron Montez.

“Ballroom Beat”
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