



Ballroom Beat

Official Monthly Publication of Piedmont NC USA Dance Inc., Chapter 6019
Vol. 13, No 12 December 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,

Dancing the year away is the way to go and we have certainly had fun doing just that!

We have an outstanding slate of new officers for the coming year that will bring new ideas and enthusiasm to our chapter. Please volunteer to help implement these ideas and keep our chapter running smoothly.

A great deal of Thanks goes to all those who made this year so productive and enjoyable. We have had a very good year.

Two programs that have been established this year could benefit from your end-of-year monetary contributions. The first is our music library. See Hubert Barney if you wish to contribute to the Music Library. The second is the ballroom dance club at North Davidson High School. Several of these students would like to attend our Ballroom Sundays, but are short of funds. If you'd like to sponsor one or more, please see Don or Linda Rankin.

Thank you for making this a wonderful year. See you on December 17 – bring a friend to enjoy our Christmas Cheer!

May Neal



Officers Elected

There were no surprises on November 26 as we elected the officers who will serve Piedmont NC USA Dance during 2007. Our new slate will be:

Dave Lundquist (*below center*), President

Linda Rankin (*left*), Vice Pres./President-elect

Donna Han, Secretary

Brenda Davis (*right*), Treasurer

Dick Heck, Donna McDonald, and Hewon Han will be our three Directors-at-Large.

The new Executive Committee (the above officers, 2007

Immediate Past President May Neal, and the

Parliamentarian) met in early December to elect committee chairs to complete the Board of Directors for the

coming year. If you are interested in serving on a committee, please tell Dave or the respective committee chair. Committee Chairs will be introduced at the December 17 Board Meeting.



Christmas Dance, Officer Installation & Meet Your New Board

December 17, 2006

5:30 - 8:00 PM

*General Dancing -THE floor
Music by Hubert and Marcia Barney
Hosts: Linda & Tom Siaton*

Semiformal attire

Inside

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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 Guests

Please come again!

Doris Kiser, (rt. with Bill Richardson) from Greensboro, danced with us again on November 26.

Jeannette Brewer (below with Joe Lira) and **Cecil Johnston**,

members of Hickory USA Dance, visited for the first time on November 26. We hope you will return on December 17!



John Cavello, a former member of our chapter, returned to dance with us while visiting during the holidays.

Joe Lira (left with Jeannette), a member of Mt. Empire USA

Dance, visited on November 26.

Rodney and Carolyn Williams practiced their dance moves on November 26 at Skateland.

2006 & 2007 at a Glance

December 17 – Christmas Dance, Install Officers, Meet new Board

January 28, 2007 – Lesson 5:30 – 6 PM, Dance 6-8

Other Ballroom Sundays in 2007: February 25, March 25, April 22, May 27, June 24, July 22, August 26, September 23, October 28, November 25, December 30

Truisms

-The greatest of all talents is the ability to bring out the best in your partner.

-For every person who can dance, there are at least 30 who wish they could.

-If you can't lead it, don't try to talk her through it.

-Be willing to sacrifice the way you dance for the way you could dance.

-Dancing on a bad floor is better than no dancing at all.

-We are children only once, but we could be childish forever.

-My partner says I never listen to her – at least I think that's what she said.

-Tact is the rare ability to keep quiet when your partner is wrong.

-When a fellow dancer says something unkind or thoughtless, be a little hard of hearing – they have frustrations, too.

-I had rather dance with a well mannered novice than an inconsiderate expert.

-When we put ourselves in our partner's place, we are less likely to want to put him in his place.

-A place to dance is a great source of happiness. It ranks immediately after home, health and a good conscience.

-Many great dancers have been lost because the person couldn't handle the thought of being laughed at.

-The dancer who most vividly realizes a difficulty is the dancer most likely to overcome it.

-I can resist anything except good dance music.

-Christmas is the time when every dancer wants their partner to forget their past and remember their present.

Footnotes:

Thanks to Dave and Leslie Lundquist for agreeing to sponsor five North Davidson students at our December Ballroom Sunday.

Thanks to Hubert and Marcia Barney for contributing \$200 to our Video/DVD Library and \$130 to our Music Library. Look for some new additions to both libraries in December.

Tidbits:

-Check our website – www.ballroom-dancing.org - we have a section in which members can buy and sell dance-related items. If you have dance attire (shoes, clothing) that you would like to sell, get it listed. Contact your Editor or your webmaster for details. If you are looking for something specific, get your need listed. There is no charge for the service; however, if you sell the item(s) we ask that you donate a portion of the proceeds to the chapter.

. All I Want For Christmas

Many of us may be struggling to decide what to get our partners for Christmas. From the major item to the stocking stuffer, there are numerous possibilities for the avid dancer. Here are a few ideas and sources:

*Dance Camp – For a partner who deserves a very good gift. Dance Vision has 2 of the best; one in Las Vegas and one in Los Angeles. Address and phone numbers in ad on this page.

*Dance lessons – private, group, individual, with partner, evening, or daytime. Check our website for a list of instructors in the area if you don't already have a favorite.

*Dance shoes – No dancer ever has enough shoes. Sometimes this one is tricky if you haven't received a specific (size, style, source) hint. Without the hint, just be sure that the shoes can be exchanged. *What will Todd Smith (below) get partner Jo Ellen Carson for Christmas?*

*Gift certificate for dance clothes. Go to local department store or check out dance suppliers on line (see *the American Dancer* magazine.)



*Video or DVD – Maybe they (and you?) would like to learn every figure in the whole video. Not

likely in a month, so purchase the video. See ad for source.

*Music – A real ballroom dance CD. Good sources are Dance Vision (see ad) danceplus.com, or Dance Trax International at 989-799-0348.

*Renew their membership in USA Dance for another year or pay a year's membership in one of the other local dance clubs (see our website).

*Make a contribution to a worthy cause such as USA Dance Music or Video/DVD library in their name.

More Than A Pretty Face

One of the busiest people at our dances is the photographer. Regardless of which Barney is behind the camera, the intent is the same: To capture the joy of dancing at Piedmont NC USA Dances.

Sometimes we also catch dancers struggling.



That, too, illustrates part of our purpose. We are far more than a place to simply enjoy dancing. We also promote improvement of individual's abilities to dance. While we

love to see guests and new members at our dances, we find even more joy in watching our members become better dancers. Seeing the frustration of learning morph into graceful movement puts a smile on the face of the person behind the lens as well as the one in front of it.

Photos are used for our newsletter. We publish about a dozen photos per issue. These are chosen to show the personality of our chapter and to help us get to know each other better. Perhaps you are too busy dancing to meet every other dancer who attends our dances regularly. Get to know them through the newsletter. Try to remember the names of and faces in each photo each month. Pretty soon you'll know your fellow dancers!

Now for the quiz: Who is the couple taking a dance break in the photo above? The answer appears in your November *Ballroom Beat*.

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Special Invitations and Happenings:

Mt. Empire USA Dance – Saturday, December 16 Charity Ball, 8 – 11 PM. Wytheville, \$10 admission. Info (276) 783-5402 or (276) 783-5349.

Winston-Salem Dance Forum – Christmas Dance, Saturday, December 16, South Fork Community Center, Country Club Road, Ballroom dancing 8 – 11 PM; \$5 admission. 712-8183.

Dancing With the Stars will be at the Greensboro Colliseum on Saturday, January 27. Ticket information is available at Tickets.com “Slim Fast Presents Dancing With the Stars The Tour”.

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 Tom and Linda Siaton for hosting our November Dance.

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

Ø To the fabulous group of Past President's who did such a great job finding outstanding officers for 2007: Martha Plyler, Hubert Barney, Ellis Pardue, Marcia Barney, and Charlie Goode.

Ø To Don and Linda Rankin, Linda and Tom Siaton, Jeannette Brewer and Cecil Johnson,



Al and Ivete Narizzano, and the Barneys for treats at our November Ballroom Sunday Dance.

Ø To all members (*such as Al and Ivete Narizzano shown on the left*) and guests who brought a spirit of camaraderie and fun to our November Ballroom Sunday! Thanks, too, to Al for his suggestion concerning additions to our Video/DVD library.

Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

We'll add two more outstanding Dance Vision DVDs and 2 more videos to our extensive library on December 17: *American Style Smooth Open Bronze Tango Variations* and *American Style Smooth Open Silver Tango Variations*. Both DVDs are instructed by Michael Mead and Toni Redpath. The two Videos are competition videos: *2000 US Open Professional International Standard* and the *2000 US National Professional American Rhythm Championship*.

Consider a USA Dance membership as a Christmas gift for a friend!

Invite at least one friend, relative, buddy, or acquaintance to our Christmas Dance on December 17!

Dance all the dances you can-
Any way that you can-
Anywhere you can –
Anytime that you can –
As long as you can.
Happy Holidays!

“Ballroom Beat”

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