



Ballroom Beat

Official Monthly Publication of Piedmont NC USA Dance Inc., Chapter 6019
Vol. 14, No 10 October 2007 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,

The weather has cooled and it is time for us to enjoy some serious dancing! At this point a rain dance might be included in our agenda.

I hope you are enjoying Season V of "Dancing with the Stars" and voting for your favorites. Your votes count in keeping your favorites dancing and keeping such programs on TV.

If your reservations are not yet in for our Big Event of the Year, the Black Tie Dinner Dance, be sure to get them in immediately. Last year was exceptionally good and well received. This year should be even better. Use the enclosed reservation form to make your reservation right away.

This year is flying by and we only have three more Ballroom Sundays before 2008. Each of the three is an important one, so be sure not to miss either. Our October 28 dance is "President's Day" at which we honor our Past Presidents; it is also very close to Halloween. Feel free to dress appropriate to the season if you wish.

I look forward to seeing you on October 28!

Dave Lundquist



2008 Officers Nominated

At our November dance we will elect the officers who will serve Piedmont NC USA Dance in 2008. Your nominating committee, comprised of the Past Presidents of our Chapter, has proposed the following slate for your consideration:
For Vice-Pres/President-elect: Rita Crews
(left with President Dave)

For Secretary: Donna McDonald

For Directors-at-Large: Dianna Saddler.

Helen Heck, Dick Heck (we elect 3)

Thanks to Nominating Committee Chair May Neal and her committee for an outstanding job in selecting nominees for 2008.

Current Vice-President/President-elect Linda Rankin (right with husband Don) will become President on December 30.



Linda is looking for enthusiastic, talented members to become Committee Chairs. A complete list of committees is on page 4 or your 2007 Directory. Let Linda know of your interest!

Inside

- Black Tie Reservation Form
- Welcome New Members & Guests
- Calendar & Footnotes
- Truisms & Notes of Appreciation
- Selecting the Right Video



**Ballroom Sunday
President's Day
Sunday, October 28, 2007**

**Cha Cha Lesson – Adina Harper
5:30 – 6:00 PM**

*General Dancing – 6:00 – 8:00 PM-THE floor
Great Music by Hubert and Marcia Barney*

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:

Victoria Scott (right), a friend of Ilse Watkins, visited on September 23 and decided to join us.



Don Long (below with Jane Crouse), a well known local dancer, became a USA Dance dancer on September 23. Welcome, Don!

We didn't have a photo of new members **Maria Elliott and Jonathan Sweitzer** who joined us in September for the newsletter last month, so here they are this time.



Welcome Guests:

Please come again!

We were delighted to see friends from the



Carolina Heartland Chapter at our September 23 Beginner's Ball! **Joe Babo** (left with Membership Chair **Helen Heck**) from Asheville USA Dance

was also a welcome guest! It was great to see **Tom and Ale O'Brien** (at right mastering one of the swing steps), graduates of our summer Introductory Dance Class, on the 23rd.



Gayle O'Malley (left with President Dave) visited us for the first time on September 23.

We look forward to seeing you again on the 28th! We were also delighted to see former members **Bill Roberts** and **Monroe Dalton** on the 23rd.

Bring a guest to our October 28 Dance. If they join both of you win: They get a membership in a great organization as well as a free 6-week introductory class and you get free admission to the Holiday Premier Promenade!

2007 & 2008 at a Glance

- October 28 – President's Day
Lesson by Adina Harper, FADS
- Tea Dance and Lesson – Every fourth Sunday –
Except December on the fifth Sunday -
5:30 – 8:00 PM Skateland, Clemmons
- November 10 – **Black Tie Dinner/Dance**,
The Millennium Center, Winston-Salem
- November 25 – Waltz lesson by Zenaïda
Lawrence of Lite Fantastic Studio - Holiday
Premier Promenade, Officer Elections,
Skateland, 5:30 – 8 PM
- December 30 – Early New Year's Party, Skateland

Truisms

- Once upon a time today's best dancers weren't.
- Music is created by a composer, appreciated by a listener, and interpreted by a dancer.
- Good dancers stretch a lot – especially while they are dancing.
- Don't explain all their faults to your dance partner. They will likely change partners before they will change their faults.
- What the world need is more good dancers with humility – there are so few of us left.
- There is a world of difference between doing a step during a lesson and doing it later at home.
- Memories are what are left to enjoy when the last dance has ended.
- How a person dances to the music is more important than the music.
- Keep your partner's well-being in mind when you feel an attack of soul-purging truth coming on.
- Proverb: Hold a good partner with both hands.
- Don't be the chip on your partner's shoulder.
- Make your current partner happy and new partners will come.
- To err is human; to blame it on your partner is more human.

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Teaching the World to Dance

**Currently having a fabulous sale on
Dance Videos!
Sale ends October 26.**

Footnotes:

Thanks to Steve Dew and Susan Pauly for becoming our newest Friends in our *Friends and Sponsors* Program!

Thanks to **Ilse Watkins** (right) for introducing her friend and our newest member Victoria Scott to USA Dance! Ilse gets a free admission to our October 28 dance.



Choosing Your Video Tapes

By now we surely know that video tapes and DVDs are a great way to learn new dance steps, improve your technique, or become inspired. Choosing the right video tape or DVD is essential for maximizing your learning experiences.

Just as in choosing a local professional dance instructor, choosing the **right** video **instructor** is

also important. Choose an instructor you enjoy watching and whose mannerisms and explanations are clear and appealing to you.

Choose a video that fits your **level of expertise**. Beginning dancers (such as Tom and Madeline Willis, right) or a person who dances at the



bronze level will probably only get frustrated with an Advanced II level tape. While an advanced dancer can always benefit from a review, they may not get excited by a bronze tape or DVD.

Know the difference between *syllabus*, *technique*, and *variations* tapes. The **syllabus** tapes are designed to teach small patterns of steps that are the primary elements of that level. For example, the American Style Advanced I Waltz syllabus tapes are designed to teach the steps (or figures) of Silver American Waltz. These are quite different from the International Style Advanced I Waltz tapes or the Advanced II (Gold) American Style Waltz.

Technique tapes are produced to help you better understand and execute the steps. These teach you the proper footwork, dance positions, partner connections, body shaping, hip actions, arm styling and other elements that make your dancing feel and look better.

Variation tapes and DVDs require a strong knowledge of steps from that level of instruction since they are advanced patterns which are enhanced with additional elements. For example, choose a bronze American Waltz variation tape only after you have mastered the syllabus and technique Bronze level American Waltz tapes.

We also have **competition** and **specialty** videos that are just what the title implies.

Check out some of the videos and DVDs from our extensive library or purchase some new ones if you have already isolated favorites.

But I don't know Salsa....

The similarities between Mambo and Salsa are greater than their differences. If the Phantom DJ says the song is a Salsa and you know how to Mambo, then Mambo. Mambo is the older, more structured dance. You'll break on the 2 beat, while those dancing Salsa will usually break on 1.

Special Invitations:

Mtn. Empire USA-Dance – Saturday, October 20, Rural Retreat Community Center, Rural Retreat, VA. Lesson at 7:30, Dance from 8:30 – 11 PM. Info: (276) 783-5402. \$7.50 USA Dance members, \$10 guests. Dressy casual.

New Group: Mayberry Ballroom Dance – Saturday, November 10 at Pro Health Fitness Center, 280 North Point Blvd., Mt. Airy, NC. Lesson 7:30, Dance 8:30 – 11 PM, \$7.50. 336-374-2712 or 275-755-3072

Winston-Salem Dance Forum – Saturday, October 20 from 8 – 10:30 PM, South Fork Community Center, Winston-Salem. Info: 712-8183. \$5, dressy casual.

Carolina Heartlands USA Dance - Second Sunday of each month. 5:30 – 8 PM, Skateland USA North in Greensboro.



- Ø To Tim Moore for taking such great care of our extensive Video/DVD Library.
- Ø To the incomparable Hubert Barney for lights, camera, proofing, inspiration, and truism input.
- Ø To John Dorosk, Ann Seats, Tom and Kathy Rucker, Maria Elliott, Jonathan Sweitzer, Don and Linda Rankin, Carolyn and Rodney Williams, Dick and Helen Heck, Loretta Breier, and the Barneys for the treats at our August dance. Thanks to Rita Crews for keeping the pitchers filled and for bringing the paper products.
- Ø To all (*such as Tom and Kathy Rucker at left*) who bring a wonderful attitude and a love of dance to our Ballroom Sundays!

Check our fabulous web site:

www.ballroom-dancing.org

for regular dance opportunities, registration forms, and other valuable information.

Notes of Appreciation:

- Ø To Allen Berryhill (*right*) for the fun and useable Swing steps on September 23.
- Ø To our terrific Webmaster John Clark for his continued interest and assistance.
- Ø To the Barneys for the fabulous music at our Ballroom Sundays.



Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

We'll add 2 more fabulous new Dance Vision Videos to our library on October 28: *Mirror Patterns and Male Leads (Shag)* instructed by Charlie Womble & Jackie McGee and *International Style Standard Waltz Technique* with Victor Veyrasset & Heather Smith.

Make your reservations now for the November 10 **Black Tie Dinner Dance** on the enclosed form.

Bring a smile, a friend(s) and a snack to share to our **President's Dance on October 28**. Just a thought: With one exception (she doesn't eat much of anything anyway) all our past presidents are great fans of peanut butter.

"Ballroom Beat"

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