



# Ballroom Beat

Official Monthly Publication of Piedmont NC USA Dance Inc., Chapter 6019  
Vol. 15, No 4 April 2008 Marcia Barney, Editor (336) 712-8183  
Send News and Views to the Editor at [PiedmontNCUSABDA@aol.com](mailto:PiedmontNCUSABDA@aol.com)

*We Promote Ballroom Dancing!*

## Your Pres Says

*Greetings, Dance Family,  
Now that you have waltzed  
with the Easter Bunny,  
performed a few dance tricks  
for April Fool's Day and  
managed to swing with the  
tax season, it's time to have some real fun. Our  
Showcase is May 10 – just in time for Mother's  
Day! So give your Mother a very special treat by  
taking her to South Fork Community Center for an  
evening of dance.*



*Be sure to bring Dad along also, and your  
siblings as well as other family members and  
friends. This is an outstanding opportunity to  
show everyone how much fun dancing can be and,  
in doing so, maybe encourage them to learn to  
dance.*

*Learning to dance is like learning a new  
language – a language in which moods and  
emotions are expressed in movement. Think about  
it – dancing is a language of rhythm, grace and  
harmony. It is like poetry in motion.*

*Grab your dancing shoes and a friend - or two -  
and join me for more dancing fun on April 27 at  
Skateland and some special dancing fun on May  
10 at South Fork!*

*Your President, Linda Rankin*

### Inside

- Welcome New Member & Guests
- Showcase
- Calendar & Footnotes
- Truisms
- Notes of Appreciation
- Teamwork on the Dance Floor



## It's Show Time

A few years ago a gentleman and his partner performed a beautiful Waltz and dedicated it to his Mother. That Showcase, like the one we're hosting this year, was on Mother's Day-eve. Had his Mother not already been a dancer, her reaction strongly indicated that she would have become one after that evening.

For many reasons few of us will be in a position to copy this touching exhibition. However, we can duplicate the emotions of our favorite dance. We could also take this opportunity to introduce our Mother or other special person to ballroom dancing at our Showcase on May 10.

Showcase Chair  
Dianna Saddler  
(right with Jim)  
still has a few  
slots open if  
you'd like to



perform. Just give her a call at 788-0548 or get a reservation form on [www.ballroom-dancing.org](http://www.ballroom-dancing.org).

If you prefer to dance only with the group and to watch others perform, just come to South Fork Community Center at 8 PM on May 10. Admission is \$10 per person, so bring several dancers and potential dancers with you.

### Ballroom Sunday Sunday, April 27, 2008

**5:30 – 6:00 PM - Bolero Lesson**  
Zenaida Ortiz, Lite Fantastic Dance Studio  
Bolero Practice 6:00-6:10 PM

General Dancing – 6:10 – 8:00 PM-THE floor  
Great NEW 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:*

**Julia Cartwright** (*rt. with John Cavello*) is our newest member. Welcome, Julia!

It was great to see

**Jim and Joanna Lawler** back on March 30!



### *Welcome Guests:*

*Please come again!*

We were delighted to see friends from the Carolina Heartland Chapter in March!

**Dick and Walena Morsa**, experienced dancers who are new to the area, visited again in March.



**Randy and Sheryl Peters** (*left*) visited for the first time in March. We look

forward to seeing you again in April!

**Liliana Mendoza** (*right with Don Long*) and **German Grandos** danced with us again in March.



**Sally and Jimmy Thorton**, (*left*) friends of the Rankins, Barneys, Saddlers, and

Lundquists visited for the first time in March.

**Millie and Egbert Jones** visited us again on March 30. We hope you'll be back in April!

**Kristen Barnet** and **Andrew Green** (*rt.*), members of the North Davidson High Dance Club visited on March 30 as



guests of the Don and Linda Rankin.

*Bring a guest to our April 27 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 our May 25 Ballroom Sunday!*

### **The rest of 2008 at a Glance**

April 27 – Ballroom Sunday - Bolero

by Zenaida Ortiz, Lite Fantastic Studio at 5:30 dancing from 6 until 8 – Skateland

Tea Dance and Lesson – Every fourth Sunday – Except November 2008 on the fifth Sunday – 5:30 – 8:00 PM Skateland, Clemmons: May 25, June 22, July 27, August 24, Sept 28, Oct 26, Nov 30, Dec 28

May 10 – Showcase, South Fork Community Center, 8 – 11 PM

October 11 – Black Tie Dinner Dance

November 30 – Holiday Premier Promenade

December 28 – Early New Year's Dance

### **Truisms**

*-If dance did not exist, we would have to invent it.*

*-Originality does not consist in dancing what no one has ever danced before, but in dancing exactly what you feel yourself.*

*-Our ability to dance lies somewhere between our talents and our dreams.*

*-Half of our mistakes in dance come from feeling where we ought to think and thinking where we ought to feel.*

*-I do not "get" dance. Dance "gets" me.*

*-In dance one plus one equals everything and two minus one equals nothing.*

*-Dancing cannot be loved or hated unless it is first tried.*

*-How well could you dance if you stopped worrying about how well you danced?*

*-Some people turn to music, some to religion, I to dance.*

*-Being unable to improve ourselves, we seek to improve our partner.*

*-Dance Studio ad: 'We don't charge an arm and a leg, we want feet.'*

*-If you smile when you do something wrong, you have probably found a way to blame your partner.*

*-No dancer benefits from a lack of practice.*

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### Teamwork on the Dance Floor

The idea of ballroom dancing as a team sport may not have occurred to you. Just think about it for a minute. A team is two or more people engaged in an activity that is hopefully mutually beneficial. A team is supposedly formed so that the total outcome of the teammates' efforts is greater than the sum of the individual efforts when working independently.

Each member of a team should have individual strengths that complement those of the other team



member. Each member of the team has specific responsibilities commiserate with these strengths.

In a dance team, (such as Jim and Joanna Lawler,

left) the major responsibilities or roles are assigned based on sex: the man is the leader, the

lady the follower. This leaves a lot of room for expression of individual personalities and strengths. For example, one partner may remember specific movements more quickly. The other partner may remember the count of the movements and the name of the step or figure. By pooling their strengths, the couple can learn much more quickly. Teammates should remember that "leader" does not mean dictator or teacher, nor is "follower" a connotation of lack of responsibility.

Partners (such as Dick and Helen Heck, right) grasp concepts like head placement, turning, stretching, and hip movement at differing rates. The ability to appreciate and encourage the other team member's understanding is usually easy in a professional situation. It should be just as easy in a dance team. The ability to grasp a concept quickly should not be considered a license to become the "professor" of the team.



Team members must also remember that what is of vital importance to one member may be a minor consideration to another. For example, ladies need to understand turning very early. It is initially much more important to the male to know the timing of the lead than how to execute the turn.

The leaders must understand floor craft. A clash of teammates can occur quickly if the lady tries to take this responsibility.

Complimenting your partner on his or her strengths and allowing expression of those strengths is the best way to make your team better. Your partner should be treated with at least as much respect and consideration as a professional teammate.

At your next dance look around and see which couples are two individuals dancing at the same time and which are teammates dancing together.

### Footnotes:

Thanks for **John Dorosk** for donating two Argentine Tango videos to our Video Library! Thanks to Hubert and Marcia Barney for their generous donations to our music library, video library, workshops, and guests fund.

## Special Invitations:

**Mtn. Empire USA Dance** – Saturday, April 19, Rural Retreat Community Center. Lesson @ 7:30, Dance 8:30 – 11 PM. Info: (276) 783-5402. \$7.50 USA Dance members, \$10 guests.

### Winston-Salem

#### Dance Forum –

Saturday, April 19, from 8 – 10:30 PM, South Fork Community Center, Winston-Salem.

Info: 712-8183. \$5, dressy casual attire.

### Carolina

#### Heartlands USA

#### Dance - Second

Sunday of each month. 5:30 – 8 PM, Skateland USA North in Greensboro. Also second Saturday night in Mount Airy. Call 336-374-2712 or 276-755-3072 for details and to confirm dates.

**Remember** to vote for your favorites on *Dancing With the Stars*. Your votes count in more than one way, so keep programs like this on the air by voting for your favorites by phone, e-mail or text.



- instructors for our pre-dance lessons.
- Ø To our terrific Webmaster John Clark for his continued interest and assistance.
  - Ø To the fabulous Video Librarian Tim Moore for taking such good care of our extensive video/DVD library.
  - Ø To the incomparable Hubert Barney for camera, proofing, inspiration, and truism input.
  - Ø To Bill and Carol Bryant, Don Long, Rita Crews, John Dorosk, Gene and Donna McDonald, Don and Linda Rankin, and the Barneys for the treats at our March Ballroom Sunday. Thanks to Don Long for bringing the paper products and to Hubert Barney for helping with the water pitchers.
  - Ø To all (*such as Mike and Kathy Lewis, left*) who bring a wonderful attitude and a love of dance to our Ballroom Sundays!

## Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

We'll add 4 more fabulous Dance Vision videos to our library on April 27: *Argentine Tango Vol. I* with Chris Morris, *Argentine Tango Vol I* with Daniel Trenner, *International Style Latin Syllabus Intermediate Paso Doble* by Corky and Shirley Ballas and *Hustle III* by Ken & Teresa Shiry.

Remember to bring your friends – dancers and those who haven't yet learned – and your Mother to our May 10 Showcase at South Fork Community Center.

Bring a smile, a friend(s) and a snack to share to our **April 27 Ballroom Sunday**.

Check our fabulous web site:

[www.ballroom-dancing.org](http://www.ballroom-dancing.org)

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

## Notes of Appreciation:

- Ø To Adina Harper (*right*) for the nifty Mambo step on March 30.
- Ø To Dave Lundquist for obtaining outstanding



## "Ballroom Beat"

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