



Ballroom Beat

Official Monthly Publication of Piedmont NC USA Dance Inc., Chapter 6019
Vol. 15, No 12 December 2008 Marcia Barney, Editor (336) 712-8183
Send News and Views to the Editor at PiedmontNCUSABDA@aol.com

We Promote Ballroom Dancing!

Your Pres Says

Happy Holiday, Dance Family, Can you believe it's Christmas already? Whether the weather remains temperate or turns blustery this Christmas we can make it more festive! Enjoy an evening of dance with friends.

Dancing is such a wonderful way to communicate without saying a word. The non-verbal communication between partners is a joy regardless of the season. Dancing is best when the gentleman concentrates on leading and the lady concentrates on following that lead.

Thanks you for your support and friendship this year. It has been an honor and a great pleasure serving as your president. You are a very special group of people. It has been a year of learning and growing for all of us and I look forward to more dance adventures with you in 2009!

Encourage your friends to make a wise New Year's resolution for 2009 to learn something that is both a great joy and good for them. Ballroom dancing would be the perfect fit.

I look forward to seeing you at our Early New Year's Dance on December 28.

Your President, Linda Rankin



Officers Elected

We elected a wonderful slate of officers to serve our Chapter for 2009. They will be installed on December 28 at our Early New Year's Dance. Now is the time for the rest of us to step up and contribute our special talents to making Piedmont NC USA Dance the best.

In the November *Ballroom Beat* a number of committees were outlined. These committees are important as they make our chapter function seamlessly. Dancing is all about partnership and teamwork. Taking on the chairmanship or even just being a member of one of these committees could not only enhance your feeling of belonging, but also help develop your spirit of teamwork.

When you pick the committee(s) of choice give President-elect Rita Crews (*above with Gene McDonald*) a call at 785-4649 and tell her of your interest. She'll be delighted to hear from you!



Early New Year's Dance

Sunday, December 28, 2008

5:30 – 6:00 PM – Waltz Lesson

Tony Econ

Practice 6:00-6:10 PM

Semi-formal attire.

*General Dancing – 6:10 – 8:00 PM-THE floor
Great NEW Music by Hubert and Marcia Barney*

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!

We were delighted to see friends from the Carolina Heartland Chapter at our Holiday Premier Promenade!

Debbie Cornatzer, a student a Baylen Dance



Studio, visited us on November 30. We hope you'll be back in December, Debbie.

David and Martha Emrey (left) also visited us for the first time on

November 30. Hope to see you at New Year's, too.

Eric Payne (right with Lynn.) came as a guest of former member

Lynn Messick.

Delighted to see each of you!

It was also great to see former member **John Cavello** back!



Dick and Walena Morse (taking a break at left) visited again after an absence of too many months!

Bring a guest to our Early New Year's Dance on December 28. If they join, both of you win: They get a membership in a great organization and you get free admission to our January 2009 Ballroom Sunday!

2009 at a Glance

December 28 – Early New Year's Dance
Waltz lesson by Tony Econ at 5:30
Dance until 8 PM at Skateland of Clemmons

2009 Dances: Jan. 25, Feb. 22, March 22, April 26, May 24, June 28, July 26, August 23, Sept. 27, Oct. 25, Nov. 29, Dec. 27.

September 26, 2009 – Black Tie Dinner Dance

Footnotes:

-Someone left a very attractive serving dish at Skateland on November 30. Please call your editor if you are the owner before she initiates adoption procedures.

Truisms

- If it ain't sexy, it ain't Latin.
- Dancing is imagination in flight.
- Dancing is two people moving as one.
- Learn to dance with your partner better than you can dance by yourself.
- The better you dance, the better you dance.
- Good dancing is done with the feet. Better dancing is done with the heart.
- Dancing is a lot like life – it's really great when you have a good partner.
- If you want to dance you'll find a way. If you don't, you'll find an excuse.
- Dancing is an art, not a science. Express yourself!
- The thing about arguing with my partner is that it always interrupts our dancing.
- Great dancing is nothing more than stored-up practice coming out.
- The two hardest things to handle in dancing are the beginning and the end.
- To break a bad dance habit, drop it.
- Love at first dance is easy to understand. It's when two people have been dancing together for years that it becomes a miracle.
- Inspiration is fleeting, but technique is forever.
- Maybe if we did a better job of listening our instructors wouldn't have to repeat themselves so much.
- If you can laugh with them, you can dance with them.
- Imagination allows us to live a dance we have not yet danced.
- Hold yourself to a higher standard than your partner expects of you – or you expect of them.
- To dance you must have legs. To dance beautifully you must have a heart.
- In dancing there is no finish line.

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Holiday Tips

If you haven't finished your shopping, there's still time to put a smile on the face of your favorite dancer. You can order music, videos, DVDs and even some artwork on line or by phone. A great place to start is with Dance vision (see add opposite.) Dance shoes also make wonderful gift. If



that dancer is your partner, consider reserving a spot at a dance camp (same source) as a really great gift that could give for a long time. If you really want to get exorbitant, consider a dance cruise. *(The photo at above would indicate that Dick Heck is quite pleased with the present he will put under the tree for Helen.)*

For your partner or for special friends who have not yet tried ballroom dancing, consider giving them lessons with one of our outstanding local instructors (listed on your Chapter's website.)

When December 31 arrives remember that we are dancers. Be sure to dance into the New Year!

New Year's Dances

Last month we issued an invitation to list New Year's Dances in *Ballroom Beat* and got some good potential dances:

>**Miller Park Dance Club** will hold their annual New Year's Eve Dance at South Fork Community Center on Country Club Road in Winston-Salem from 8 PM until 12:30 PM. Attire is dressy. Admission is \$5 per person.

>**Triangle USA Dance** will have a New Year's Eve Dance at the Sir Walter Raleigh Hotel. Contact Vickie Crib at nobabycrib@aol.com for details.

>**Tidewater USA Dance** has a huge New Year's bash that lasts from December 31 to January 3. There will be dances each night, Wednesday through Saturday as well as social dancing from 2:15 – 4:15 daily. More than 60 social dance workshops will be held starting at 11 AM on the 31st. Professional exhibitions, too! For details check www.usadancetidewater.org, e-mail



While alcohol sometimes encourages us to be more expressive in our dancing, it may also remove some driving inhibitions. Mike Lewis' *(at left with Kathy)* "Don't drink and drive" applies to adults as well as teens. Stay sober, stay

where you are dancing or appoint a designated driver to get you home safely. We'd like to see you dancing throughout 2009!

The 2009 USA Dance National Chapter Conference will be January 15 – 18 at the Radisson Worldgate Resort in Kissimmee, Florida. If you'd be interested in attending, contact SocialVP@UsaDance.org. It could be quite educational and perhaps warmer, too. Reservations can be made until December 31.

Special Invitations:

Mtn. Empire USA Dance – Sat, December 20, Rural Retreat Community Center. Lesson @ 7:30, Dance 8:30 – 11 PM. Info: (276) 783-5402. \$7.50 members, \$10 guests.

Winston-Salem Dance Forum – Christmas Dance Sat. Dec. 20, 8 – 10:30 PM, South Fork Community Center, Winston-Salem. Info: 712-8183. \$5, dressy

Winston-Salem Dance Club – First Saturday night of each month. South Fork Community Center. 8 – 10:30 PM. \$5, Dressy casual.

Carolina Heartlands USA Dance - Second Sunday of each month. 5:00 – 7:30 PM, Skateland USA West in Greensboro. Also second Saturday night (Jan. 10. Feb. 14) in Mount Airy for the Mayberry Ballroom Dance at the pro Health Fitness Center in Mt. Airy. Time 7:00 until 10:30. Call 336-374-2712 or 276-755-3072 for details and to confirm dates.



- Ø To the fabulous Video Librarian Tim Moore for taking such good care of our extensive video/DVD library. A list of available titles is available from Tim or your editor.
- Ø To the incomparable Hubert Barney for assistance with camera, proofing, inspiration, and truism input.
- Ø To Don and Linda Rankin, John Dorosk, Dick and Helen Heck, Mike and Kathy Lewis, Gene and Donna McDonald, Betty Wolfe, Don Long, Tom and Kathy Rucker, Carol and Bill Bryant, Andrew and Laurie Stroupe, Randy and Sherryl Peters, and the Barneys for the treats at our September Ballroom Sunday. Thanks to Hubert Barney for taking care of the water pitchers and to Randy and Sherryl Peters for bringing the paper products.
- Ø To all (*such as Ray and Jean Brewer, above 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 our terrific Webmaster John Clark for his continued interest and assistance.
- Ø To Adina Harper of *Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Clemmons* (right) for teaching us a nifty Cha Cha step and exhibiting such great technique for us to copy.



Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

We'll add 2 more fabulous Dance Vision videos and a DVD to our library on December 28: *American Style Intermediate Samba Variations* by Chris Morris, *American Style Variations Advanced I Rumba* also by Chris Morris and an *American Style Open Silver Waltz Variations* by Michael Mead & Toni Redpath DVD. Remember, members are encouraged to check out videos and DVDs free for one month.

Bring a smile, a friend(s) and a snack to share to our **Early New Year's Dance on December 28.**

Happy Holidays to You!

"Ballroom Beat"
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