



Ballroom Beat

Official Monthly Publication of Piedmont NC USA Dance Inc., Chapter 6019
Vol. 16, No 1 January 2009 Marcia Barney, Editor (336) 712-8183
Send News and Views to the Editor at PiedmontNCUSABDA@aol.com

We Promote Ballroom Dancing!

Your Pres Says

Greetings, Dancers,

The New Year is here and it looks to be a very good one for Piedmont NC USA Dance!

During the year we plan to keep the concepts and procedures that worked well before and add some new ideas to make this year even better.

Please note the new Board Members who have been appointed for 2009. Combine these enthusiastic dancers with our new slate of officers and we have a winning combination!

We have added a Community Relations Chair to our Board this year. This committee should increase the community awareness of ballroom dancing while providing our members with more opportunities to exhibit their skills for the pleasure of both themselves and others. Committee Chair Randy Peters is looking for a few good committee members. Let him know of your interest.

We will also have a Charity Ball this year. This is a bi-annual event at which we raise money for a worthwhile charity in our community. If you'd like to help with this see Donna McDonald or Hubert Barney.

*Let's have a great year of dance in 2009!
See you on January 25 at Skateland!*

Your President, Rita Crews



Board Members Appointed

President Rita Crews has announced the appointment of a number of Board Members for 2009. The Executive Committee met on January 10 and enthusiastically approved the appointments:

- Music Chair – Hubert Barney
- Program Chair – Sherryl Peters
- Newsletter Editor – Marcia Barney
- Community Relations – Randy Peters
- Publicity & Promotion – Tom Rucker

Long Range/Strategic Planning:
Dick Heck

Black Tie – Linda Rankin
Reception – Kathy Rucker
Refreshments – Julia Cortright
(left)

Video/DVD Librarian – Tim Moore

Advisory – Past Presidents

Charity Ball Co-Chairs – Donna McDonald and Hubert Barney

There are still a few Chairs that have not been filled. If you are interested in serving as a Chair or on either of the above committees, please call Rita at 785-4649 or talk to the appropriate committee Chair.



Inside

- Calendar & Truisms
- Editorial – The face of our Club
- Notes of Appreciation
- Welcome Guests & Articles



First Ballroom Sunday of 2009!

Sunday, January 25, 2009

**5:30 – 6:00 PM Rumba Lesson
Zach Lawrence, Zax Studio**

6 – 8 PM Great Music by The Barneys

Look here for a Very Important Announcement in the February "Ballroom Beat."

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:



It was great to see friends (such as Wes and Lynette Smitherman, left) from Carolina Heartland USA Dance at our December Ballroom Sunday.

John and Dariel Buczek, (rt.) attended our Early New Year's Dance as guests of Mike and Kathy Lewis.



Dick and Walena Morse danced with us



on December 28. We look forward to seeing you again in 2009!

Bob Kinard (left, with Kathy) attended as a guest of Kathy Marino.

Bring a guest to our first Ballroom Sunday of 2009. 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 February 22 Ballroom Sunday. Make it a habit and you could attend free all year!

2009 at a Glance

January 25 – First Ballroom Sunday of 2009
 Lesson 5:30 PM; Dance until 8 PM
 Tea Dance and Lesson – Every fourth (except November) Sunday
 2009 Ballroom Sunday Dates:
 January 25, February 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, Municipal Club, Lexington

Truisms

- Dancers are interpreters of dreams.
- It doesn't matter how long you have danced. All that matters is how long you dance.
- He who can dance has hope and he who has hope has everything.
- It is the greatest of all mistakes to dance not at all because you can dance only a little.
- The joy of dance is the purpose of dance.
- Trust is the first step to a good partnership.
- Time tugs at my body and says "Dance, you're wasting me."
- The enjoyment of the dance, not the length of the song, is what is important.
- What is dance but a continuous search for pleasure?
- All dancers learn as long as they are willing to learn.
- If it's true that every adversity, every failure, and every heartache makes us a better dancer, I should be fabulous!
- Happiness is when pleasure exceeds expectations, so dance!
- In dancing the worst precedes the best of times.
- Dance is like eating with chopsticks. It looks easy until one tries to do it.
- To dance well is not to think alike, but to think together.
- Dance partners should be models, not critics.
- The difference between the first lesson and the fiftieth lesson is the difference between the seed and the plant.
- Great partners are not created, they are recognized.
- Be the great partner you are seeking.
- What the feet learn today, the head will understand tomorrow.
- The novice dancer learns the rules, the seasoned dancer learns the exceptions.
- The determined pursuit of perfection often impedes improvement.

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Editorial

The Face of Piedmont NC USA Dance

There is no question that dance is a social activity; however, each dance club has a unique personality and purpose. The purpose of our club is to promote ballroom dancing. That involves not only encouraging others in our community to become ballroom dancers, but also to improve our



own ability and enjoyment of ballroom dancing. The best way to encourage others to enjoy our art is to let them see the pleasure it brings us (*as illustrated by Randy and Sherryl Peters, left.*) We can tout the abundant physical and mental benefits of dancing, but if we downplay the pure joy and

the fun, few will be interested. In 2009 let's be sure that everyone knows the real reason we dance – because we enjoy it!

Our club is also made up primarily of couples. This is somewhat unique in a dance club whose membership is open to the public. Furthermore, many of us prefer to dance almost exclusively with our regular partner. For at least the past decade there have been debates as to whether it is a.) more enjoyable and b.) more conducive to improved dancing to dance with a variety of partners rather than exclusively with “the one who brought you.” We tend to the exclusive. This could be perceived by some as anti-social – a conclusion that to those who know our members is laughable. Think

about it at the next dance. If you think we could be perceived as unfriendly, consider asking (male or female) someone other than your regular partner to dance (*Dave*



Lundquist seems to enjoy dancing with wife Leslie, right, as well as occasional other partners.) Variety may, in fact, be the spice of dance. If you'd still prefer to dance exclusively with your partner, just say “Hi” to other dancers and continue to dance with that partner.

I'm not one for New Year's resolutions; however, I do believe in setting goals and making concrete plans. This could be a good time for each of us to decide how we can best become better dancers and have more fun doing so. Let's make our club as enjoyable for members and their guests as possible this year and in future years!

Articles Welcome!

Many members of Piedmont NC USA Dance have great ideas for improving our dance experience. These could be resources, places to dance, environmental adjustments, physical or mental influences, or social issues just to name a few. Your editor would welcome an article from you! If you don't wish to write the article, call with the concept and we'll help put it together for sharing with all our members.

Special Invitations:

Mtn. Empire USA Dance – Saturday, January 17, 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, January 17 (and every third Saturday), from 8 – 10:30 PM, South Fork Community Center, Winston-Salem. Info: 712-8183. \$5, dressy casual attire.

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. 5:30 – 8 PM, Skateland USA West in Greensboro. Also second Saturday (except April 4) night in Mount Airy. The next one will be February 14. Call 336-374-2712 or 276-755-3072 for details and to confirm dates.



- Ø To the incomparable Hubert Barney for camera, proofing, inspiration, and truism input.
- Ø To John Dorosk, Ray and Jean Brewer, Tim Moore, Mike and Kathy Lewis, Wes and Lynette Smitherman, Dick and Helen Heck, Dave and Leslie Lundquist, Tom and Linda Siaton, Al and Ivete Narizzano, Randy and Sherryl Peters, Don and Linda Rankin and the Barneys for the treats at our Early New Year's Dance. Thanks to Randy and Sherryl for bringing the paper products.
- Ø To all who bring a wonderful attitude (*such as Tom and Linda Siaton, left*) and a love of dance to our Ballroom Sundays!

Coming Next Month

Front page news! Be sure to read your February *Ballroom Beat* carefully! A dramatic change for Piedmont NC USA Dance will be announced.

Check our fabulous web site:

www.ballroom-dancing.org

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

Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

On January 25 we'll add 2 new videos – American Style Variations, Advanced I Samba by Chris Norris and American Style Variations, Intermediate Rumba by Chris Morris. We'll also add a new DVD – International Style Standard Open Bronze Tango Variations and Technique with Victor Veyrasett & Heather Smith – to our Video/DVD library. All three are outstanding Dance Vision productions.

Bring a smile, a friend(s) and a snack to share to our **First Ballroom Sunday of 2009** on January 25 at Skateland!

Notes of Appreciation:

- Ø To Tony Econ (407-2634) for helping us improve our Waltz on December 28 and throughout the New Year.
- 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.

“Ballroom Beat”
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