



Ballroom Beat

Official Monthly Publication of Piedmont NC USA Dance Inc., Chapter 6019
Vol. 16, No 12 December 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

Greeting, fellow dancers,

Very soon 2009 will be but a pleasant memory of good dances and great friends. An active Chapter requires the effort of many people.



Special Thanks goes to our Executive Committee and other Board Members. Tom Rucker, Dianna Saddler, Dick Heck, Donna McDonald, Randy Peters, Linda Jackson, Linda Rankin and Marcia Barney have contributed much to the smooth running of our year. Music Chair Hubert Barney and Program Chair Sherryl Peters have done an exemplary job.

Early in the year we moved to a new and vastly improved location with, as many well-traveled dancers have stated, the best dance floor.

Let's make 2010 even better. Volunteer to get involved in our organization!

Very best wishes for a great Holiday Season! I look forward to seeing you at the Clemmons YMCA on December 27. Bring a guest or two!

Your President, Rita Crews

Your Pres-elect Says

Fellow Dancers,

Time flies when you're dancing and it is New Year's resolutions time again! Here are some suggestions for the coming year:

-Enjoy! Yes, I got the step right, but am I allowing myself to experience the fun and joy of it all?

-Master the Steps. Hey, guys, we're in charge; we lead, they follow. Let's periodically review what to lead and how to lead it.

-Try different partners. No, it's not wife swapping; it's just good dance practice. We will probably be better, more confident leaders as a result.

-Calendar and attend Ballroom Sundays. If you calendar all of them at the beginning of the year, you'll remember to attend.

Sorry, ladies, the resolutions are mostly for us guys. You can remind us of them if you like. (Is that enough of a concession?)

Thank you for electing me as your 2010 President. I look forward to an exiting New Year!

Tom Rucker, President-elect
(Shown above with, left to right, Dianna Saddler, Donna McDonald, and Rita Crews)

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Officer Installation and Early New Year's Dance Sunday, December 27, 2009

4:00 – 4:30 PM – Mambo Lesson
By Zenaida Ortiz

General Dancing – 4:40 – 6:30 PM
Great Music by Hubert and Marcia Barney

Directions to Jerry Long Family YMCA, formerly the West Forsyth YMCA: From I-40 on the west side of Winston-Salem take the Clemmons exit. Go north away from downtown Clemmons. Turn left onto Peacehaven Road at the first traffic light not associated with I-40. Go less than ½ mile and the YMCA is on your left. Go in the main entrance to a great dance. Address: 1150 S. Peacehaven Road, Clemmons

Welcome New Members:



John and Dariel Buczek, sister of Kathy Lewis, have moved back to Winston-Salem and joined us. Welcome! We now have a golf pro among us. **John Cavello (left)** has also returned and we are delighted to have him back!

Please come again!

Welcome Guests:

Jim and Chinera Lathan (rt.), new dancers, visited on November 29. We look forward to seeing you again on December 27!



David and Diane Salmon, recent converts to ballroom dancing, also



visited in November. **Henry and Betty Fansler (left)** who came to us from a YMCA class visited in November. We hope to see you

in December!

Rosalie Saleeby and Jeff Christopher danced with us at our Holiday Premier Promenade.

Frank and Nancy Payne (rt.), also graduates of a recent beginner class, visited in November. We look forward to dancing with you in 2010!



It was great to see **Ralph and Robyn Seamon** again on November 29!

Don Long and Betty Wolfe, former members, returned for a visit in November. Make it a habit in 2010!

It's always a pleasure to see **Dick and Walena Morse**, too!

We were delighted to see friends from the Carolina Heartland Chapter at our November Ballroom Sunday!

Bring a guest to our December 27 Ballroom Sunday. If they join, both of you win: They get a membership in a great organization and you get free admission to our dance in January! Remember, membership starts when you join and continues for a year regardless of the date.

2009 and early 2010 at a Glance

December 27 – Early New Year's Dance
 Mambo with Zenaida at 4, dance until 6:30 PM
 2010 Ballroom Sundays: January 24, February 28, March 28, April 25, May 23, June 27, July 25, August 22, September 26, October 24, November 28.

SPECIAL FOOTNOTE

Eddie Morgan, (rt.) teaching our May lesson) one of our outstanding instructors,



has been very ill with H1N1 followed by pneumonia. He spent several days in the hospital and weeks at home recovering. His poor health continues to preclude his teaching.

Dancers at our Early New Year's Dance will have an opportunity to lend a helping hand on December 27. An "Eddie Assistance" box will be on the reception table if you would like to contribute. Items such as nutritional supplement would also be appreciated.

If you cannot attend the December 27 dance, but would like to send Eddie a card, his address is: Eddie Morgan, 4870 Thales Road, Apt. 10A, Winston-Salem, NC 27104.

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Editorial:

Dancing is a Commitment!

You've heard that the more you dance, the more fun you have dancing. Many of us know that becoming more involved in our dance club makes dancing more fun (from the mischievous look on the faces of the three female officers on the front page next year should be even more so!) There are other times when commitment is important in dancing, too.

From the first foot movement when we are learning to dance we know the importance of committing to each step. Only by putting all our weight on one foot are we able to move the other foot to that all-important next step.

When turning, we need to have all our weight committed to our foundation foot in order to balance during the turn.

In leads the gentleman must commit to the body



movement that will tell his lady what he wants. Indecisive leads are like incomplete invitation – the follower can only guess what you want. That doesn't mean the leads are forceful, just

decisive and confident (as illustrated by Randy and Sherryl Peters above.)

Let's get our chin up, our spine straight, our arms and hands toned and commit to dancing more and better in 2010!

Truisms

- We know enough when we know how to learn.
- A person isn't poor until he can no longer dance.
- Make the most of every song – those who can't dance can make the worst of it.
- All the beauty I strive to create appears in my dreams.
- Kindness helps partners to learn, and to forget, many things.
- If you lead with confidence you'll be followed with cheer.
- Dancing is a duet where one leads and the other follows.
- There is no security in dancing, only opportunity.
- A good partnership is an edifice that must be rebuilt with each dance.
- The saddest thing I can imagine is not being able to dance.
- When the feet hear the music you can dance.
- Don't criticize your partner. If they were a better dancer they might not want to dance with you.
- A great dancer makes new things familiar and familiar things new.
- The tragedy of dance is not that it ends too soon, but that we waited so long to begin.
- Dancing improves with practice. I improve with dancing.
- Not all of us are great dancers, but loving to dance and a good partner make a great disguise.
- Spend a little more time on learning how to dance and a little less on what to dance.
- How much you enjoy it is far more important than how much you know when dancing
- You will never learn to dance by waiting to start!
- The best way I know to be jolly is to dance!

Special Invitations:

Mtn. Empire USA Dance – Sat. Dec. 19, 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 – Sat. December 19, 8 – 10:30 PM, South Fork Community Center, Winston-Salem. Info: 712-8183. \$5, dressy

Winston-Salem Dance Club – First Sat of month, 8 – 10:30 PM, South Fork Community Center.

Carolina Heartlands USA Dance - Second Sunday. 5:00 – 7:30 PM, Skateland USA West, Stage Coach Trail in Greensboro. Also most second (next dance January 9) Saturday nights in Mount Airy for the Mayberry Ballroom Dance at the pro Health Fitness Center. 7:00 until 10:30. Confirm at:336-374-2712 or 276-755-3072.



- Ø Thanks to Donna McDonald for helping with the photos in November!
- Ø To Tom & Kathy Rucker, Gene & Donna McDonald, Kathy & Mike Lewis, Dianna & Jim Saddler, Pat Willis & Scotty Michaelsen and the Barneys for the treats at our November Ballroom Sunday. Thanks to Rita Crews for taking care of the paper products, to Randy Peters for the water, to greeters Scotty Michaelsen and Pat Willis (*left*). To the whole “team” (you’re welcome to join the team) who make our dances such a delight from setup to break-down!
- Ø To all who bring a wonderful attitude and a love of dance to our Ballroom Sundays!

Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

We’ll add another great Dance Vision video and DVD to our library on December 27: *American Style Bronze Syllabus Tango* DVD with Jim and Jenell Maranto and *99 US National Professional Latin American* competition video.

Bring a smile, a friend(s) and a snack and/or water to share to our **December 27 Ballroom Sunday**.

*See you at the
Jerry Long Family YMCA
on the 27th – 4:00 P.M
For our annual Early New Year’s Dance!*

Happy Holidays!

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 the incomparable Hubert Barney for assistance with camera, proofing, inspiration, and truism input. To both Barneys for our wonderful Ballroom Sunday music.

“Ballroom Beat”
Marcia Barney, Editor
3501 Lakefield Court
Clemmons, NC 27012

