



Ballroom Beat

Official Monthly Publication of Piedmont NC USA Dance Inc., Chapter 6019
Vol. 17, No 4 April 2010 Marcia Barney, Editor (336) 712-8183
Send News and Views to the Editor at PiedmontNCUSABDA@aol.com

We Promote Ballroom Dancing!

Your Pres Says

Dear Fellow Dancers,

Finally April has arrived – no more snow – let’s hope! I don’t know about you, but dance played a significant part this year in my “battling winter” strategy.



Two Ballroom Sunday events are coming up that I know you will want to take advantage of. One is the “Ten Top Styling Tips” on April 25. When I first put this idea to the Barneys, their reaction was “only 10?!” Yes, I want to boil it down to what I can reasonably keep track of. There will, as always, be a great deal of dancer participation in this program as we experiment with each tip. Sounds like great fun. I think we are all curious what they will come up with.

The other event is our May “Disco Sunday” at which Eddie Morgan will teach the Hustle. If you have any bell bottom pants or polyester casual suits left, now is the time to bring them to the light of day. But if you are like me, the navy and red checkered sports coats have long gone to Goodwill.

I look forward to seeing you at the YMCA on the 25th! Bring a friend!

Enjoy the Dance, Tom Rucker

April Flowers

There will definitely be some blossoms at our April dance on the 25th. In addition to the usual ones provided by First Lady Kathy Rucker, we’ve added two more points of special interest. Our April “Ballroom Sunday” promises to be especially delightful! As President

Tom pointed out, the lesson will be a slight deviation from the norm. It will be an accumulation of points we may have heard previously with a sprinkling of some new ways of applying these tips to our dancing. We will learn how to improve more than one dance as we cover styling tips for several dances.

The second big deal at our April Ballroom Sunday will be the appearance of our long-anticipated shoe bags. These will be available to members in attendance who have paid their dues in 2010.

If your anniversary date is later in the year pay your dues early and you can start using your shoe bag right away. If you plan to do this on April 25 let your editor know early so your shoe bag will be at the dance. This will not affect your anniversary date.

Inside

- Welcome New Members & Guests
- Following
- Footnote & Calendar
- Truisms
- Notes of Appreciation
- Dancing With Rita



April Ballroom Sunday
Sunday, April 25, 2010
Guests Welcome!

4:00 – 4:30 PM - Lesson
Ten Top Styling Tips

General Dancing – 4:30 – 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. YMCA: 1150 S. Peacehaven Road, Clemmons 27012

Bring a guest to our April Ballroom Sunday! Dancing is even more enjoyable when you share the fun with friends!

2010 at a Glance

Welcome New Members:

George and Mary Tucker (*right*) have become our newest Piedmont NC USA Dance Members. We're delighted to have you!



April 25 – *Ten Top Styling Tips* at 4 PM, Dance until 6:30
 May 23 – Disco Sunday! Dress appropriately! Hustle Lesson at 4 with Eddie Morgan Dance until 6:30
 2010 Ballroom Sundays: April 25, May 23, June 27, July 25, August 22, September 26, October 24, November 28.
 September 18 – Black Tie Dinner Dance Lexington Municipal Club
 September 19 – 26 National Ballroom Dance Week

Welcome Guests:

Please come again!



John and Karen Sykes (*left*) attended our March dance as guests of the Barneys. They are also friends of Frank and Nancy Payne. It was good to see former member **Don Long** again on March 28.

Carol and Max Bumgarner danced with us again on March 28.

Annice Hogsette (*right with Randy Peters*) attended as a guest of Randy and Sherryl Peters.

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

Kathy Laws, Jody Nichols, and James

Williams came from Millers Creek to dance with us on March 28 at the invitation of the Caudles.

We hope you'll return in April.

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



FOOTNOTE

Deepest sympathy to **Mike and Katy Lewis** and **John and Darian Buzak** on the loss of Kathy and Darian's mother, a lady who contributed significantly to the growth of the arts in Winston-Salem.

Dancing With Rita

On May 1 Communities In Schools will present "Dancing With the Forsyth County Stars" at the Millennium Center. Those scheduled to dance include Mayor Allen Joines, Police Chief Scott Cunningham, City Council Member Denise Adams, Northwest Child Development Centers Representative Tony Burton, Caroline Worf Long of the Winston-Salem Journal, and Rita Crews. If one of these names looks familiar, it should as Rita Crews is also our Immediate Past President.

Rita is looking for sponsors. You can vote for Rita online at www.cisfc.com. Tickets for the event on May 1 can be obtained via a contribution of \$35 per adult or \$10 per youth under 18.

This is a good cause – helping kids stay in school – so let's support Rita. Wouldn't it be nice if the winner of the event was actually a dancer!

As done in Chicago: Vote early and vote often.

DVDs-Music-Books Dance Floors Manuals Certification Dance Camps & More

Over 50,000 items in stock and we can usually ship within 24 hours by FedEx 2-day delivery at no extra charge.

Call for a free catalogue
800-851-2813
or visit

DANCEVISION.COM
Teaching The World To Dance

Great dance camps in Spring and Summer!

Editorial:

Following

Ballroom dancing is an art in which a couple executes patterns in unison without verbal communication. To do this well requires a distinct understanding of roles – and a willingness by both partners to concentrate on their roles.

The male is the leader and the female is the follower in almost all cases. For the partnership to work well both partners must be mentally and physically dedicated to the process. Just as leading is not dictating or forcing, following is not submissive or passive.

The relationship of dance partners (*such as Dennis and Melinda Zembower, above*) has been compared to a musician playing a musical instrument. The follower is the instrument. A



partner who allows one to dance to the limits of one's ability is beautiful music to both partners.

The leading and following is constant during the duration of the dancing. As followers we must concentrate on our leader while maintaining our own sense of balance and rhythm.

The body language of our leader as we feel in through the contact points of the partnership will tell us a great deal. As we become more advanced we begin to reflect our leader's body language more in our shaping and performance of steps.

Leads can be blocking so we should be sure that we do not anticipate what our leaders are going to do. Dancing is never competing against your partner.

The most important aspect of following is partner confidence. Regardless of your leader's expertise, have confidence that he will guide you around the floor to the best of his ability. Relax and enjoy following his lead.

Truisms

- Good dancing is not a reward, it is a consequence.*
- A good partner adds enhancement rather than advice.*
- Sometimes our instructors help us most by knowing what not to bother with.*
- When dancing we can never control everything.*
- Enjoy dancing and the world will enjoy dancing with you.*
- What concerns dance partners can only be resolved by the partners.*
- The highest result of dancing is beauty – of mind, spirit, and body.*
- He who postpones learning to dance is like the rustic who waits for the river to run out before crossing it.*
- Dancing is walking with a lot of heart and a little good music.*
- Dancing is like manna; it is to be learned in grains and enjoyed every day.*
- It's amazing what a little good music in the right place at the right time can cause.*
- Happiness is when we dance better than we thought we could.*
- A dance step is a theme around which dancers paint a picture.*
- All dance steps are easy once they are understood.*

Special Invitations:

Mtn. Empire USA Dance – Sat. April 17, back in Wytheville this month, so call for directions. Lesson @ 7:30, Dance 8:30 – 11 PM. Info: (276) 783-5402. \$7.50 members, \$10 guests.

Winston-Salem Dance Forum – Sat. April 17, 8 – 10:30 PM, South Fork Community Center, Winston-Salem. Info: 712-8183. \$5, dressy casual

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

Carolina Heartlands USA Dance - Second Sunday. 5:00 – 7:30 PM, Skateland USA West, Stage Coach Trail in Greensboro. Also most second (next May 8) Saturday nights in Mount Airy for the Mayberry Ballroom Dance at thePro Health Fitness Center. 7:00 until 10:30. Confirm at:336-374-2712 or 276-755-3072.



and truism input. To both Barneys for our wonderful Ballroom Sunday music.
Ø To Tom & Kathy Rucker, Gene & Donna McDonald, Dick & Helen Heck, Sherryl Peters, and the Barneys for the treats at our March Ballroom Sunday. Thanks to Rita Crews for reception, to Julia Cortright for taking care of the paper products, to Randy Peters for the water, to greeters Scotty Michaelsen and Pat Willis. To the whole “team” (you’re welcome to join the team) who make our dances such a delight from setup to break-down!

Ø Thanks to all (*as illustrated by Scotty Michaelsen and Pat Willis, above left*) who bring a wonderful attitude and a love of dance to our Ballroom Sundays! A rainy Sunday in March proved a great opportunity for some to perfectly illustrate the sense of cooperation and consideration among our members.

Check our fabulous web site:

www.ballroom-dancing.org

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

Notes of Appreciation:

- Ø To Eddie Morgan (*right*) for the fun Swing lesson in March! Eddie can be reached at 407-4028 for private lessons.
- 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,



Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

We’ll add another Dance Vision video and DVD to our library on April 25: *Styling & Technique for East Coast Swing* by Ron and Karla Montez and *2002 World Super Star Dance Festival Latin*.

Bring a smile, a friend(s), a snack and/or water to share to our **April 25 Ballroom Sunday**.

*See you at the
Jerry Long Family YMCA
on the 25th – 4:00 P.M.
For another great Ballroom Sunday Dance!
Dressy casual attire.*

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

