



Ballroom Beat

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Send News and Views to the Editor at PiedmontNCUSABDA@aol.com

We Promote Ballroom Dancing!

Your Pres Says

*Hello, Dance Family,
As the steamy days of summer continue our dances offer a cool place in which to refresh and rejuvenate. Dancing is such a cool way to keep physically active, mentally astute, and emotionally engaged even on the hottest summer days!*



This is a great time to introduce those friends and acquaintances who are not yet dancers to our art, too. Invite them to attend our Beginner Lessons in August and September. It would be great to celebrate National Ballroom Dance Week in September by welcoming new friends to our dance family!

It is also time to start thinking about our major event of the year: Our Black Tie Dinner Dance on October 11. This year the event will be held at the City Club in Lexington. After extensive and thorough consideration your Board decided to change to this venue due to the superb floor and wonderful ambiance of the location. It will be well worth the drive to Lexington!

I look forward to seeing you and a friend at Skateland on August 24!

Your President, Linda Rankin

Beginner Lessons

Our annual Beginner Ballroom Dance Lessons will be held from August 18 through September 22 in Clemmons. Kathy Marino has again agreed to help with space at her Studio in Clemmons Cove, 2668 Lewisville/Clemmons Road.

The 6 lessons will culminate with our Beginner Ball on September 28 at Skateland. During the 6 weeks students will learn Waltz, Foxtrot, Swing, Rumba, and Cha Cha. The lessons will be on Monday evenings from 8 PM until 9:30 PM. This is a fabulous opportunity to introduce someone to ballroom dancing. Two of our Board members, Dick and Helen Heck (*below*) started ballroom



dancing through one of our Beginner Classes a few years ago. It would be great to find more fabulous, enthusiastic friends like the Hecks!

Perhaps you know someone who is curious about ballroom dancing, likes a new learning experience, or looking for a new activity or social outlet. A partner is suggested, but not necessary.

The lessons are free to anyone who joins Piedmont NC USA Dance or has joined within the past year. The cost of membership is \$35. A registration form is enclosed.

**It's the Fourth Sunday of Five Again!
Ballroom Sunday
Sunday, August 24, 2008**

5:30 – 6:00 PM – Rumba Lesson
Tony Econ of Studio E
Practice 6:00-6:10 PM

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

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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 New Members:

Ray and Jean Brewer (right), students of Jimmy Satterwhite, *Lite Fantastic Dance Studio*, joined us on July 30.



Welcome Guests:

Please come again!

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



Also Tom Moran, Jane Raulston, Holly Fenstermaker, Danny Wyatt, Bill and Sheila Reeves.

Ken and Cherryl Wernick (left), Introductory Class

students, were welcome guests.

Nyal and Fai Cannon, (right) friends of the Rankins, the Saddlers, the Brewers, and the Barneys, were also welcome guests.



Bring a guest to our August 24 Dance or send someone to our August 18 class. 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 September 28 Beginners Ball!

The rest of 2008 at a Glance

August 24 – Ballroom Sunday – Rumba lesson by Tony Econ 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:
 Sept 28, Oct 26, Nov 30, Dec 28
 August 18 – Sept. 22 – Introductory Classes for new members
 September 28 – Beginner’s Ball
 October 11 – Black Tie Dinner Dance
 November 30 – Holiday Premier Promenade
 December 28 – Early New Year’s Dance

Footnotes:
 -Thanks to **Tom and Kathy Rucker** (right) for becoming Gold Sponsors in our Friends and Sponsors Program.



-Deepest sympathy to **Jim and Dianna Saddler** on the death of his mother.

Truisms

- Lessons and experience make it better. Friends make it fun.
- Rudeness is the weak dancer’s imitation of strength.
- Rather than love, than money, than fame, give me a good partner.
- How it improves partners when we begin to appreciate them.
- Dance proverb: With whomever I dance, his praise I sing.
- Practice is a dancer’s dressmaker specializing in alterations.
- In basic steps unity, in routine steps cooperation, when learning steps patience.
- In dance, one and one are one.
- Criticism may be a kind of compliment your partner doesn’t want.
- Never be overly impressed with someone else’s dancing. All peaks look shorter from the top.
- Approach every dance as if it were the one that will define you.
- Practice should always follow instruction.
- It is in the shelter of each other that partners dance.

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Teaching the World to Dance

Competition

Our parent organization – USA Dance – is a constant promoter of dance competition and sponsor of numerous amateur events. (Check www.USADance.org for details.) As a group, Piedmont NC USA Dance concentrates far more on cooperation than on competition. As such we do little to promote dance competitions. However, competitions can do much to stimulate personal improvement in both spectators and participants. *(Are Jim and Dianna Saddler-above - future competitors?)* Watching such competitions as the Ohio Star Ball on TV or attending a top competition can be an eye opener. Seeing the very best professional dancers at the peak of their game is inspiring! Attending a competition allows one to see and, if they choose to participate in, all levels of dancing. At the more prestigious competitions one can also visit shoe, clothing, and sometimes music vendors devoted to



dancers. Frequently, workshops or seminars are part of the event.

If your appetite is whetted, here are a few competitions that could fit into your travel plans in the coming months:

- The Embassy DanceSport Championships** – Aug 28-31– Yucaipa, California (909) 797-0801
- United States Dance Championships** – September 2-6, 2008, Orlando, Florida
www.unitedstatesdancechampionsips.com
- Cleveland DanceSport Challenge** – Sept. 18 – 20 – Cleveland – www.clevelanddancesport.com
- **Southwestern Invitational** – Sept. 26-28, 2008 – Dallas, TX – www.southwesterninvitational.com
- Hawaii Star Ball** – October 1-3, 2008, Honolulu
www.hawaiistarball.com
- First Coast Classic** – Oct. 2-4, 2008 – St. Augustine, Fla. www.firstcoastclassic.com
- CSC – Constitution State Challenge DanceSport Championships** – Oct. 3-5 Stamford, Conn. www.cscdancesport.com
- Golden State Challenge** – Oct. 10–12 – Newport Beach, CA – www.GoldenStateChallenge.com
- 2008 **Hotlanta Dance Challenge** – Oct. 15-18 – Atlanta www.hotlantadance.com
- 38th Grand National Championships** – Oct. 30 – November. 2, 2008 – Miami, Florida – www.grandnationalchampionships.com
- Caribbean DanceSport Classic** – November 5 - 9, 2008 – San Juan, Puerto Rico – www.caribbeandancesport.com
- Pacific DanceSport Championships** – Nov. 7-9, 2008 Los Angeles www.pacificdancesport.com
- Nashville StarZ Dance Spectacular** – Jan. 22 – 25, 2009 – Nashville - www.smoothchamp.com
- Northeastern Open** – Jan. 30 – Feb 1, 2009 – Stamford, Conn. www.neodancesport.com
- Maryland DanceSport Championships** – February 5 – 8, 2009 – Bethesda, Maryland – www.marylanddancesport.com
- The Eastern United States DanceSport Championships** – Feb. 19-22, 2009 Boston – www.easterndancesport.com
- The Heritage Classic**– March 3-9, Asheville, NC www.theHeritageClassic.com
- The Emerald Ball** – April 30-May 3, 2009 – Los Angeles www.EmeraldBall.com

For competitions within easy traveling distance, we'll give more details in future issues of *Ballroom Beat* closer to the times when they occur.

Special Invitations:

Mtn. Empire USA Dance – Sat, August 16, 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. August 16, 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 night in Mount Airy. Call 336-374-2712 or 276-755-3072 for details and to confirm dates.

Travel Tip - If you plan to travel this summer go to our National website and check to see if a USA Dance Chapter is in the area you're visiting.



- Ø To the fabulous Video Librarian Tim Moore for taking such good care of our extensive video/DVD library. To Linda Rankin for helping out when Tim is absent.
- Ø To the incomparable Hubert Barney for camera, proofing, inspiration, and truism input.
- Ø To Don and Linda Rankin, Tom and Kathy Rucker, and the Barneys for the treats at our July Ballroom Sunday. Thanks to Hubert Barney for taking care of the water pitchers and to Marcia for bringing the paper products.
- 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 fabulous Dance Vision video to our library on August 24, *American Style Advanced I Viennese Waltz Variations* by Chris Morris. We'll also add 2 Dance Vision DVDs: *American Style Rhythm Bronze Samba and Bolero Variations* by Don Johnson and Kasia Kozak and *American Style Smooth Open Silver Foxtrot Variations* by Michael Mead and Toni Redpath.

Invite a friend or acquaintance to become a ballroom dancer. Give them the enclosed registration form for our **Beginner Dance Classes** that start on August 18!

Bring a smile, a friend(s) and a snack to share to our **August 24 Ballroom Sunday**. Remember, **It's the Fourth Sunday!**

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 Nathan Foreman (*above with Lucy Chambers*) for an outstanding Tango lesson on July 27.

"Ballroom Beat"

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