



Carolina HeartBeat

Publication of Carolina Heartland USA Dance Chapter 6092

Send news and views to trudy@newhomeguides.com; Visit www.carolinaheartland.org
Trudy Atkins and Steve Raeford, Editorial Staff

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www.carolinaheartland.org

From the President...

Wow! What a wonderful year 2006 was under the leadership of Joe Zannini as our President. Being awarded USA Dance Chapter of the Year' says it all. There's nothing I can add except to say "Joe, we thank you so much for all you did and continue to do." We are indeed fortunate to have Joe and so many who bring so much to the Carolina Heartland Chapter. This is why we continue to grow and succeed. My hopes are that we will continue in 2007 to enjoy what USA Dance presidents, Rockie Troxler and Joe Zannini, have brought to the club thus far. We dance, we have fun, we bond as friends, and we make memories to last a lifetime. It's a good life, folks.



Carolyn Steed

We need each of you to get involved; don't wait to be asked - just volunteer. Tell us what you like to do; we will find that perfect place for you. Members are needed to dance for our Outreach programs, and if this is something you would like to do; contact Chair Curtis Holt. Joe Zannini will need members for the Youth/College programs. Sherri Raeford, Program Chair, has responsibility for monthly instructors and scheduling our dance workshops. "Save the Date" for these activities. You will come away with a new step or two, not to mention the possibility of a new dance friend.

Black Tie is April 28, 2007, at The Sheraton Four Seasons. Plan to attend. Invite your dancing friends to share in this special event. The Greensboro Big Band will play 6:30- 8pm. Dinner is 7-8pm, followed by dancing to recorded music from 8- 11 pm. You'll know you already love the music when I tell you it is provided by Lib Johnson and Rockie Troxler. There's no other event like our Black Tie dance locally, so let's make it a total success with participation. For further information, contact Black Tie Chair Jim Steed

In 2007 be happy, smile and dance often. For a few magical hours, we will escape into the wonderful world of dance! I can't think of a better wish to give each of you.

Heartland Dancers to Perform at Beth David Synagogue

Carolina Heartland dancers have been invited to perform at the Beth David Synagogue, 804 Winview Drive in Greensboro on Friday January 16, from 12:15 - 1 p.m. with the Curtis Holt Dancers. If you wish to participate, please call Curtis at 336-288-8252 or sign up during our monthly dance January 14.

USA Dance Calendar

January 14 - Monthly Dance: 4:30 p.m., Tango Lesson by Tim Saunders (Greensboro Ballroom), Dancing 5:15 - 7 , The Grange.

January 16 - Outreach: "Shall We Dance?" program, Beth David Synagogue 11:15- 12:00 (volunteers welcomed)

February 11- USA Dance 4:30 p.m.

February 14 - Outreach: "Shall We Dance?", 5 p.m. at Greensboro Central Library (volunteers welcomed)

March 3 - Dance Workshop, 1 p.m. The Grange.

March 11- USA Dance, 4:30 p.m. The Grange.

April 8 - USA Dance, 4:30 p.m. The Grange.

April 28 - Black Tie Formal, The Sheraton Four Seasons. 6:30 p.m.

Save the date...



Carolina Heartland Plans Third Annual Black Tie

Save the date! Carolina Heartland's third Black Tie Ball will again be held in the gorgeous Guilford Ballroom at the Joseph S. Kourie Convention Center on Saturday evening, April 28.

Ball Chairman Jim Steed has announced that the ball will combine the best of both worlds as in previous years: live music from the 17-piece Greensboro Big Band from 6:30 - 8 p.m., and recorded music from the best bands worldwide from 8- 11 p.m.

Jim is now seeking volunteers for the committees needed to create a successful ball. These include: Reservations, Ticket Sales, Ushers, Technical Support, Hotel Arrangements, Special gifts, Publicity and General Support. Please sign up at our monthly dance or contact Jim at 336-299-8877 or 336-317-7575..

Dance at the Library on Valentine's Day

The Carolina Heartland chapter has been invited to dance in the Central Library Atrium Wednesday, February 14.

The time is 5 p.m., an hour that may help attract singles and young professionals, Beth Sheffield, who is in charge of library programs, noted that the popularity of "Dancing with the Stars" should add appeal as well as the fact of being Valentine's Day.

Wednesday also happens to be Wine Night at Cafe Europa, less than a block from the library. This is a popular gathering place for those who are employed downtown.

If you wish to participate, please call Curtis Holt (336-288-8252) or sign up at our monthly dance January 14.

Committee Appointments Announced for 2007

President Carolyn Steed has announced the following committee appointments for our Carolina Heartland Chapter for 2007.

Programs and Entertainment - Sherri Raeford
Publicity and Chapter Newsletter - Trudy Atkins and Steve Raeford

Music - Rockie Troxler

Membership - Lib Johnson

Outreach - Curtis Holt; **Sub-chair for Youth Programs** - Joe Zannini

Hospitality - Betty McClintock

Black Tie Committee - Jim Steed

Special Appointed Committees:

Webmaster - Joe Leggio

Contacts: Greensboro - Bob and Lib Johnson - 336-299-7412; High Point/Jamestown - Lynette and Wes Smitherman-336-454-3378; Burlington-Robert and Karen Fogleman - 336 226-2347.

Volunteers Wanted!!!!

Volunteers are needed for the 2007 Triangle Open on the NC State campus in Tulley Student Center February 2 and 3.

Many of our members participated last year as volunteers as well as competitors. To register, please contact Wayne Crowder at - 336-623-4961 or e-mail the Crowders at mrcrowder@earthlink. For information, please visit the competition website at: www.dancingwithwolves/triangle.

News & Notes

Dancing in Myrtle Beach - Lib Wellons sent Christmas greetings and an invitation to attend her chapter's dances on the third Friday of every month. Next dance is at the Base Recreation Center on Friday, January 19, from 7 - 10 p.m.

SilverArts - Applications for the Silver Arts portion of the Greater Greensboro Senior Games for 2007 are available through the Seniors Unit of Parks and Recreation in Greensboro. Applications will be mailed if you call 375-2237.

Mountain Empire Chapter will move its January 20 dance to Rural Retreat Community Center. A rumba lesson at 7:30 will precede social dancing from 8:30 - 11 p.m. For directions, please call 276-783-5402.

Mark your calendar. The America's Ballroom Challenge (Ohio Star Ball) will air nationally starting this month on PBS. One-hour segments will be aired at 8 p.m. on successive Wednesdays beginning January 24 and continuing January 31, February 7, February 14 and February 21. Please check your local PBS listings to confirm the date and time.

First Friday (January 5) Great music (the Johnsons) and good fellowship at 8 p.m. at the Grange, off Guilford-Jamestown Road adjoining Greensboro Middle School campus..

Second Friday at the High Point Elks (January 12) - A dinner buffet and great music (the Williams); 6:30 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m., Don't forget to make a reservation by Wednesday, January 10. **Greensboro Social Dance Club** (January 13) will have its monthly dance at Lewis Recreation Center at 8 p.m.

Carolina Pines (January 13), 7 p.m. lesson (salsa); 8 - 10 p.m. dancing, 105 McReynolds Street, 2nd floor ballroom, Carthage. **Triangle Chapter** (January 20) at Highlands Methodist Church, Raleigh. President Tom Tucker publishes a great newsletter. E-mail him at tomtucker@mindspring.com

Horizon Dance Club (January 27) invites guests to its monthly dances at 8 p.m. at The Grange.

Piedmont Triad (January 28) Lesson at 5:30; dancing from 6 - 8 p.m., Skateland. Clemmons.

On Dance Etiquette: Why Dance with Beginners?

"When in Rome, do as the Romans do" is an ancient adage but a good one to remember when attending dances in the Triad.

As we welcome new dancers almost weekly, several couples have suggested including a note in this publication re dancing etiquette, at least as it is practiced at Triad dances.

The custom at dinner dances as well as club dances is for men to dance with every lady at his table. "I prefer to dance with the lady I brought" is a male's common objection. There's no question that dancing with a better partner makes both dancers look good, but it is not the best way to improve lead/follow skills.

Suppose you are a great leader or follower. If leaders dance only with accomplished followers, your lead-and-follow skills gradually decline. You learn to dance better by dancing with more experienced partners, but you learn how to lead/follow better by dancing with those who are less experienced. All your weaknesses as a leader show up when dancing with a novice who fails to follow your lead. The same is true for followers.

Membership Renewals: January is renewal date for eight members. They are: Janice Bergman, Joan Bowden, Carole and Bill Bryant, Joyce D'Arconte, Elizabeth Ann Vandzura, and Bill & Cinda Wall. Remember, our chapter receives \$5 for every renewal made on time, that is, in the month when due. So please send your dues to national ASAP.

It is a proven fact that a man or woman cannot become a great dancer by dancing only with the same person. A leader who only wants to dance with the best followers may feel they are the only ones who can match his high level of skill. Often what is really going on is that only the best followers can compensate for his mistakes. If none but the best can follow your lead, dance professionals respectfully suggest your leads could use some work.

There may be a chorus of objections to the idea of dancing with all the ladies at your table, especially when you are seated with seven or more couples; however, you will miss only seven dances with your partner out of approximately 50 selections on the evening's schedule. And you may find several ladies as competent as you are as you widen your circle of dancers.. You may also discover a weakness in your lead which eventually will make you a better dancer.

(If you disagree with any of the above, we welcome your rebuttal. Please let us know by either signed or anonymous communication. We value your opinion.)

Become Involved: Have you ever heard members complain, "No one ever asks me to do anything!" If so, please ask, "Well, what do you want to do?" Our chapter is composed of members with a variety of talents which can greatly enhance our organization, but you have to take the first step, indicating a willingness to serve. You will be glad you did.

Carolina Heartland Dancers were invited to dance in the Central Library on December 3 to the music of the Sinai Mountain Ramblers. Those participating are shown here in the Library Atrium: (l-r) Steve and Sherri Raeford, Lib Johnson, Curtis Holt, Trudy Atkins and Homer Mason.



Pictures from Carolina Heartland Website

Webmaster Joe Leggio continues to do a superb job maintaining our Carolina Heartland website. He has mounted more than 100 photos of our dancers which, for easy referral, are displayed under the various events. Check out the Photo Gallery at carolinaheartland.org, and you will probably find yourself featured in several pictures. Here are a few from our December dance, taken by our favorite photographer, Steve Raeford.



Mary Lou and Rockie Troxler



Robert and Karen Fogleman



Sherri Raeford and Jim Steed