



# Carolina HeartBeat

Publication of Carolina Heartland USA Dance Chapter 6092

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## From the President...

Dancing is a language all its own, and members of Carolina Heartland are among those who speak it. Our membership directory has a quote that says it well: "Partner dancing is like a language - if you speak it, you can dance it anywhere with anyone." As we go through our dance life, hopefully our vocabulary grows, our steps become smoother, we become part of the dance scene and enjoy what once we admired at a distance.



Carolyn Steed

When you think of dance, what is your favorite thought? Is it a smooth dance performed with such elegance or a Latin dance with its quick, fun turns? Perhaps it is the atmosphere of ballroom dancing with the dress attire and themes so often enjoyed. Could it be your love of music brought you to ballroom dancing, and you now look forward to evenings of wonderful, inspiring music to dance? Could it be you find yourself thinking of a fun-filled evening with friends who share your love of dance? If your dream is competing, do you think of competition? It matters not what your favorite thought is; there are so many things in ballroom dance to appreciate that your first or second thoughts are so entwined that one day you realize you love most things about dance. There just isn't a single favorite thought you have.

As our Outreach Committee dances for others, one can often see a smile in the audience where there was none at the beginning of a demonstration. Dance is indeed a language that can be appreciated even if not spoken. For those who once "spoke" it but no longer can, I can only imagine that it brings floods of great memories.

Have you ever taken the time to really think how many friends you would have missed if it had not been for a particular dance class or dance club? Dance becomes part of your very being. The better you speak the language, the easier it becomes so get involved.

Enjoy wherever you are today in your dance life whether it's the beginning, the intermediate or advanced, or for the truly dedicated: competition. Continually strive to improve your dance language as the rewards are many. As in learning any language, enjoy the adventure and speak it often.

*Carolyn Steed*

## USA Dance Calendar

**September 9 - Monthly Dance, 5:30 p.m. Lesson - Waltz, Tom Patillo, Patillo Dance Studio; dancing 6:15 - 8 p.m., Skateland USA North, North Church St.**  
**September 16 - Showcase: Dancing with Our Stars, 3:30 p.m. Shrine Club, 5010 High Point Road, Greensboro.**  
**October 18 - "Shall We Dance?" 1- 1:30 p.m., Shepherds Center Workshop, First Baptist Church, 1000 W. Friendly, Greensboro.**

## Spotlight on...



### Bob Marlowe with Linda Emory

Music has been part of Bob Marlowe's life since he took trombone lessons at five years of age while his mother was studying voice at High Point College. He was in the first grade when, on a trip to St. Croix, he met Jimmy Hamilton who played woodwinds with Duke Ellington. Bob became smitten with The Duke's recordings; thus began a love affair with Big Band music.

He learned to play several more instruments in the school band (a highlight was meeting Count Basie on a trip to Chicago), then was trombonist with the Greensboro Big Band until 1997 when he began dancing, seeking a different way to enjoy music.

"I had heard of the 'Lindy Hop' and found the name Frankie Manning on my computer," he says. "Frankie had danced at the Alhambra Ballroom in Harlem in the late 1920s, later moving to the Savoy." Bob bought and studied Frankie's instructional tapes diligently.

Later in the year he met Linda Emory in Lindy Hop classes with Joel Demoe in Greensboro. "We started performing in 1998, and it was like magic." Linda had also studied under Frankie Manning at a Durham workshop. Subsequently, they attended more Frankie Manning workshops and began stage appearances with the Kings of Swing Big Band. They have also performed for the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce, the WW II Remembrance at the Greensboro Coliseum and at various conventions.

## Showcase to Celebrate National Dance Week

A full roster of dancers will be "our stars" when Carolina Heartland sponsors its annual Showcase Sunday, September 16, at the Oriental Shrine Club in Greensboro during National Ballroom Dance Week.

Chair Ellie Dolata has announced "Dancing with Our Stars" as the theme of this year's Showcase which begins at 4 p.m., continuing until 7 p.m. with performances interspersed with general dancing. Featured performers will include an award-winning couple, Angela Park, a pre-med student from UNC-Charlotte, and John Park, a high school student who is also enrolled in second-year college classes.

Working with Ellie are Jerry Snyder, who will serve as master of ceremonies, and the following committee chairs: Refreshments: Lynette Smitherman and Cheryl Wheaton; Decorations: Eileen Leggio, Yvette Zannini and Betty McClintock; and Publicity: Chattie Byrd. Lib Johnson will furnish music with Joe Leggio on sound. Rockie Troxler and Jerry Snyder were in charge of engaging performers.

Admission is \$10 (\$5 for students). For the best seating, please register early by calling Ellie (317-2225) or by e-mail ([ellieandjoedance@yahoo.com](mailto:ellieandjoedance@yahoo.com).)

## Seeking a Few Good Members to Serve as Officers for 2008

Joe Zannini, Nominating Committee Chair, is seeking members to serve as chapter officers for 2008.

Ellie Dolata, president-elect, will move into the presidency in December, and Wes Smitherman will serve as treasurer in the second of a two-year term. All other offices are open. Please contact Joe or President Carolyn Steed if you will join the slate on which members will vote in November.

**New Member Campaign:** The chapter's campaign for new members will end in September with the member enrolling the most NEW members winning a \$40 Gift Certificate. Guests visiting the first time who are not members of other USA Dance chapters, also enjoy free admission.

# News and Notes

**Dancing Stars** - A world boxing champion, an Emmy winner, and a Las Vegas legend will join nine other celebrities on ABC-TV's Dancing with the Stars September 24. Boxer Floyd Mayweather, Jr., Jane Seymour and Wayne Newton will appear on the networks top-rated show which been expanded over three nights, splitting the contestants by gender in the first week.

**Raleigh** - Tom Tucker reports the Triangle chapter will meet as usual at the Highland Methodist Church Saturday evening, September 15.

**Charlotte** - The Queen City chapter will celebrate National Ballroom Week at its monthly dance September 8 when Yusimi Cruz of Havana Social Club will lead the lesson and perform an exhibition as a preview to the upcoming North Carolina Classic.

**Hickory** - Pat Burns says the Carolina Foothills Chapter will have Just Us Duo band Sept. 22nd from 7:30 - 10:30 p.m. with no lesson. "They are very good and play for many other USA Dance groups," Pat says. For more information, call 828-327-6932 or 828-294-0192.

**Mayberry Dance:** Carole and Bill Bryant welcome Heartland members at their Second Saturday dance September 8 from 7:30 - 11 p.m. at the Pro Health Fitness Center in Mount Airy. For directions, call the Bryants at 336-374-2712.

**Wytheville** - Becky Comer reports the Mountain Empire Chapter will meet Saturday, September 15, beginning with a lesson at 7:30; dancing until 11 p.m.

**Winston-Salem** - The Piedmont NC Chapter meets September 22; lesson at 5:30 p.m., dancing from 6 - 8 p.m., Skateland, Clemmons.

## All about Ballroom Music for the Social Dancer

Members who receive the newsletter via post had a dividend with the August issue: copies of Rockie Troxler's treatise on "Ballroom Music for the Social Dancer."

Written at the request of President Steed, the article was tucked in the HeartBeat envelope and were also available at our Sunday dance at Skateland August 12. Meanwhile, our Peerless Webmaster, Joe Leggio, has posted the article on our website. Thank you, Rockie, for sharing the raison d'être of ballroom music.

**Please Sign Up:** Chattie Byrd, Britt Hammond and Elaine Frost, tri-host for our monthly dance September 9, ask all who bring "treats" to sign up at the refreshment table. Among those contributing in August were Ellie and Joe Dolata (hosts), Betty and Conrad McClintock, Wanda and Wayne Wilson, Carole and Bill Bryant, Lynda Williams, Al Kamperman, JoAnn and Jerry Snyder, Lynette and Wes Smitherman, Ann and Jim Astin, Joanie and Red Galloway, and Flo and Burt Jackson.

**Dues Reminder:** USA Dance renewals are due for September: Mark and Cathy Katz, Homer and Dot Mason, Madeline Ransom, and Don and Margaret Paulson.

## Eleven Dancers Perform for Enthusiastic Audience

A very successful "Shall We Dance?" demonstration occurred at Blumenthal's Nursing/Rehab Center September 16.

Eleven dancers including Linda and Larry Jackson, Joe and Eileen Leggio, Jerry and JoAnn Snyder, Verita Harper, Bob Marlowe, Linda Emory, Trudy Atkins and Curtis Holt performed with special solos by the Snyders and Bob Marlowe and Linda Emory which "brought down the house."

A member of the audience, Morris Ashe, was a former Arthur Murray instructor. He was so charmed that he invited Eileen to dance a fox trot, and she graciously accepted. Two in the audience, Linda's Jackson's mother and her sister, who was visiting, added to the pleasure of the occasion.

**Troxler Update** - Just before Rockie Troxler had knee surgery, he and Mary Lou placed sixth in a field of 18 in the International Standard Senior Prechampionship Division August 3-5 in Louisville, KY. (Reminder to our competing members: Please keep HeartBeat informed when you compete. We are proud to have you represent us.) Meanwhile, Rockie is recovering nicely and hopes to be back on the dance floor in several months.

## Dancing in Guilford

**September 7** - First Friday at The Grange, 8 - 10 p.m. to Lib Johnson's music. (Call 299-4812 for information.)

**September 14** - Carl's Dance. - 6:30 p.m., dinner and dancing to music by Carolyn and Rodney Williams, High Point Elks. (Reservations must be made by preceding Wednesday noon; IMPORTANT: please indicate your host couple).

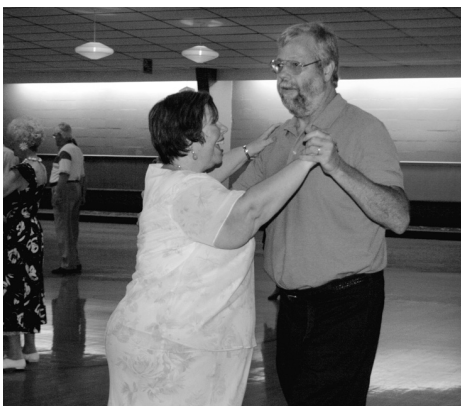
**September 15** - 8 p.m.: Greensboro Social Club, Lewis Recreation Center.

**September 22** - 8 p.m.; Horizon Dance Club; music by Bill Hammett.

**September 29** - Fifth Saturday at High Point Elks; comes only four times a year with great music by Carolyn and Rodney Williams and the usual bountiful buffet. (Reservations must be made by preceding Wednesday noon; IMPORTANT: please indicate your host couple).

**Greensboro Ballroom** - Tim Saunders has canceled his First Sunday Tea Dance in September because he will be out of town, but the popular dance will resume October 7.

**Condolences** - We were saddened to learn of the death of Joe Zannini's mother in late August. Rose Zannini died in Cranston, RI, after a painful illness with her loving family around her.



At Skateland USA North - A new location and the summer doldrums have not affected attendance at our monthly dances to any noticeable extent. Treasurer Wes Smitherman reports 62 members (down slightly) attended our August dance with eight guests. Eileen Leggio dances with Steve Raeford in the first photo, taken by Sherri Raeford. Dasha Chub, our instructor from Fred Astaire/Battleground, is shown demonstrating a cha cha step with Judy Daughtery while Joe Lira dances with Verita Harper. The last frame shows Red Galloway with his favorite partner, Joanie.