



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...

Happy hearts, smiling faces, good friends, and great music that keeps you on the dance floor...can life be any better? Experience all of this April 28th at the Sheraton Four Seasons when we host our annual Black Tie event. Ticket sales are under way, and members are anxiously making plans.



Carolyn Steed

This is indeed a special event for Carolina Heartland. The Chapter hopes you will be there and have fond memories of this evening for months, perhaps years, to come.

The Greensboro Big Band, an orchestra of 17 professional musicians, will play dinner/dance music from 6:30 to 8 p.m. From 8 - 11 p.m., it will be my pleasure to look across the dance floor and see friends looking spectacular while dancing to the ballroom music of Rockie Troxler and Lib Johnson.

Magic will be in the air. For those who have attended in the past, I need say no more as I know your plans are already in motion. For our first-timers, I can only say you will be most pleased. If you haven't already done so, call your friends, get a table together and experience this Black Tie event. If you need us to arrange a table for you, we are pleased to do so as always.

This week I saw a quote: "To think is easy. To act is difficult. To act as one thinks is the most difficult." This applies to ballroom dancing: finding the time for lessons and dances, learning the steps and finally mastering them, the routine, and getting to know each other in this special way. Hopefully, one day we recognize the dance step we first thought difficult, perhaps elusive, has with dedication, patience, a lot of hard work become a real part of who we are. Because of this we are enjoying some of the best times life has to offer.

Loving dance as we do, I hope we will share this love at the Black Tie on April 28th. If not, we will see you at another dance soon.

Carolyn Steed

Tickets have been sold well past the 100 mark as we work toward the second 100. If you need more tickets or flyers, call Catrina (299-8877) from 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1:25 - 5 p.m. She will dispatch them immediately.

USA Dance Calendar

April 15 - Monthly Dance: Waltz Lesson at 4:30 p.m. by Allen Berryhill, Dance Arts Studio, dancing from 5:15 - 7 p.m., The Grange.

April 28 - Black Tie Formal, The Sheraton Four Seasons, 6:30 p.m., Greensboro Big Band; 7 p.m. Dinner; 8 - 11:30 p.m., dancing.

May 6 - "Shall We Dance" demo during Parisian Promenade Sunday afternoon in Greensboro Bicentennial Gardens. (Contact Curtis Holt to sign up).

May 19 - "Shall We Dance" demo during Antiques and Arts on Elm celebration, downtown Greensboro. (Contact Curtis Holt to sign up).

May 20 - Monthly Dance: 4:30 p.m., West Coast Swing lesson by Tim Saunders, Greensboro Ballroom ; dancing from 5:15 - 7 p.m., The Grange.

Spotlight on....

Volunteers Green Bottles and Black Tie

Volunteers and green bottles are needed...lots of them...to prepare for our third Black Tie gala Saturday, April 28., at the Sheraton Four Seasons.

The green plastic bottles, the two-litre containers which Ginger Ale, Seven-Up, etc., come in, are needed by Carolyn Steed and Yvette Zannini who will transform them into objets d'arte to serve as centerpieces for the Black Tie.

Carolyn and Yvette will be working on centerpiece arrangements Friday afternoon, April 27, at the Steed home on Hagen Stone Park Road. You don't need to have a bent for flower arranging to help. Just call Carolyn and tell her you will come.

Black Tie Chair Jim Steed needs several dozen volunteers to help decorate the ballroom the morning of the ball. He can be reached at his office (299-8877) during business hours or by cell phone (317-7575) at other times. Believe it or not, it's a lot of fun working together to create the Bower of Beauty the Steeds have planned.

Finally, regarding the green plastic bottles: Please bring them to The First Friday dance at the Grange on April 6 or to our monthly dance on Sunday, April 15. Carolyn also is soliciting containers from those attending Lib Johnson's Wednesday night class.

Finally, ticket sales are brisk as members continue to sell. Curtis Holt just turned in money for 18 tickets, and Lib and Bob Johnson have almost filled two tables as well. Right on!

An Invitation to Dance at Parisian Promenade

Carolina Heartland members have been invited to dance during the Parisian Promenade Sunday afternoon, May 6, in the Bicentennial Gardens on Hobbs Road in Greensboro.

There will be live music, sidewalk, artists, and food vendors, including a French chef, and many other exhibits. . Mebane Ham, Marketing Coordinator, is shown on page 2 with Curtis Holt in front of the Wedding Gazebo. Mebane plans to have a dance floor installed with cover on the grassy sward to provide plenty of space for dancing. If you are interested in participating, please call Curtis Holt or sign up at our monthly dance April 15.

Our chapter has also been invited to perform during the eighth annual Antiques and Art on Elm celebration. Saturday, May 19, in downtown Greensboro. More information will be provided in the May issue of HeartBeat, but meanwhile, encircle the dates.

Prom Dresses to Be Distributed April 14

The final distribution of prom dresses from the Greensboro Youth Council's Prom Passion Closet will take place Saturday, April 14, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 311 West Wendover.

Sixty young women from Guilford County High Schools received prom dresses March 27 and 29. At least 27 of these were given by Carolina Heartland members including Eileen Leggio, Lib Johnson, Dot Mason, Carol Bryant, Virita Harper, and Trudy Atkins. .

Jennifer Caviness, GYC director, invites Carolina Heartland members to attend the "fitting" on April 14. If you wish to come, please contact Trudy Atkins (217-4279 ext. 236 or 299-0419)2). This is a GYC ongoing project, so save those lightly worn prom dresses for this worthy program (www.greensboronc.gov/Departments/Parks/programs/gyc/gycweb.htm.)

News & Notes

Heartland Champions - Rockie and Mary Lou Troxler were pleased with their awards at the Indianapolis Heartland Classic in mid-March. They received third place in Senior II and Senior III Pre-Champ; fifth in Senior II Championship; and fifth in Senior III Championship. Bravo for the Troxlers!

Dancing Opportunities

First Friday at The Grange. Music by Lib and Bob Johnson, The Grange, 8 p.m.

Friday, April 13 - Carl's Dance. Dinner and dancing to the music by Carolyn and Rodney Williams, High Point Elks. (Reservations MUST be made by Wednesday noon.)

Saturday, April 14 - Greensboro Social Club, 8 p.m., Lewis Recreation Center, Greensboro.

Saturday, April 21 - Mountain Empire Chapter, lesson at 7:30 p.m., dancing until 11 p.m.

Saturday, April 21 - Triangle, Lesson by Yuni Simakov, Highland United Methodist Church, Raleigh.

Saturday, April 28 - Horizon Dance Club, 8 p.m. at The Grange.

Sunday, April 29 - Piedmont NC Chapter; lesson at 5:30 p.m., dancing from 6 - 8 p.m., Skateland, Clemmons.

America's Ballroom Challenge is finally being aired by UNC-TV. If you missed the show on March 29, a second will air on Thursday, April 5, from 10 - 11 p.m. The PBS website is www.pbs.org/tvschedules.

Greensboro Ballroom's schedule includes a tea dance from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 1, hosted by Tim Saunders. For a complete schedule of Greensboro Ballroom dances, please call 854-1850. We welcome dance studios to send in their schedule of dance opportunities which are open to non-students. Mail to PO Box 7344, Greensboro 27417.

Sunday Hosts - Lynda Williams, Al Kamperman, Franzi Brown and Margaret Norton will host our monthly dance April 15. Appreciation to Britt Hammond, Chattie Byrd and Elaine Frost who served as hostesses in March and to all who brought the great snacks and finger foods for our enjoyment.

Introducing Allen Berryhill

Our April instructor, Allen Berryhill, teaches at the NC School of the Arts as well as ballroom classes for the City of Winston-Salem and students in his own Dance Arts Studio between trips to Washington, DC and New York City to instruct. After attending NCSA, George Washington University, and the International School of Ballet in New York City, he danced on Broadway, and in national television specials. He studied under Joe Layton, Bob Fosse, Michael Bennett and Tommy Tune and appeared on stage with Carol Channing, Alfred Drake, Pat Boone and many others. Stage roles range from Fagin in *Oliver* to the leading role of Jesus in four different companies of *Godspell*. This multi-talented teacher has directed, choreographed, acted, danced, and sung his way through dinner theaters, regional and childrens' theaters around the country.

Dues Reminder

USA Dance renewals are due for Joe and Eileen Leggio and Noah Key. These should be mailed to USA Dance, Inc., National Membership Director, PO Box 126, Southampton, PA 18966-0126.

The Winner!

David Idol submitted the following essay on how he became interested in ballroom dancing and why he stays involved.

Why Dance?

Today, I threw away a pair of dance shoes! Why? Tired of Dancing? Not enjoying it? Giving it up? Someone suggested that I turn the shoes into a planter; after all they were my first pair!

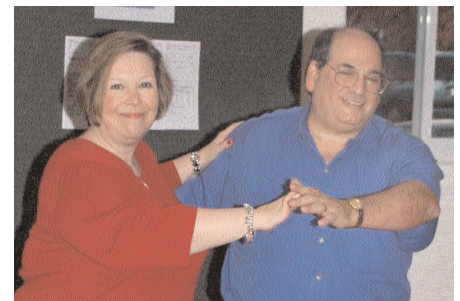
The big hole in the toe, the torn soles, the tattered leather all remind me of why I love to dance! Six pairs later, I still feel sad when I dust off my shoes and put them away after a dance! I'm never ready to leave! There is always a great anticipation for the next opportunity.

Is there something in my blood that causes this? If so, it must be contagious. Better yet, I believe it has something to do with our inner-being. More than the love of music, friendship and fellowship and the challenge, perhaps it is our guardian angel bringing the sense of serenity to our souls and giving us that peace in knowing what we are doing is so right!

(Editor's Note: Dave wins free admission to a monthly dance of his choice. There will be no contest in April as all thoughts and efforts are focused on the Black Tie.)



Carolyn & Jim Steed



Eileen & Joe Leggio



Ann & Jim Astin



Curtis Holt and Mebane Ham, Marketing Coordinator, pose in front of Wedding Gazebo in Bicentennial Gardens where Carolina Heartland members have been invited to dance May 6.



Sherri Raeford & Ken Chiau



Z I Strader & Fran Randolph