



USA Dance, Inc.

Carolina Heartbeat



A publication of Carolina Heartland, Chapter #6092

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December 2018

The President's Column

It has been an exciting year for our chapter and I want to express sincere thanks to all of you who have been a part. It truly takes the energy, efforts and time of many to keep our chapter healthy and strong. I would love to see our numbers increase over the next year as we continue to reach out to dancers of all interests and levels.

We are already making plans for 2019 and have great leaders in place for several events. Marty Bergman has agreed to chair the Black Tie and is already making plans for this special event on April 6.

Without our volunteers and the efforts of many these events would not be possible. We will continue to offer a variety of experiences for beginners through seasoned dancers including outreach opportunities, lessons, monthly dances, workshops and special events.

Steve Raeford has joined us on the board to serve 2019 – 2020, and Mel Paterline, Melody Kearns and Charles Hafer will also serve through 2020. Lib Johnson, Lynette Smitherman, Rodger Haberfield, Mark Lichtenberger and I will continue to serve through December 2019. We have a very strong group in place to nurture the momentum and growth.

I wish you all a wonderful holiday season full of love, peace and joy.

Sherri Raeford, President

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Upcoming Carolina Heartland Events

December 9— Monthly Dance, Guilford Grange, 4909 Guilford School Rd, Greensboro. **3:30-4:15 pm:** Samba lesson taught by Randy Garner. **4:15-6:00 pm:** social dancing to music prepared by Lib Johnson. Admission: \$5 for USA Dance members, \$10 for non-members, \$5 for students, free for first-timers. This is our annual Holiday dance and we will be collecting toys and other gifts, as well as money, for the Salvation Army "Gifts for Kids" drive. See article in center column below.

Mike Vuncannon Practices



Spotlight on Mike Vuncannon

Mike Vuncannon has been known in the Greensboro dance community since 2008. In the last three years, he has intertwined his dance activities with those of Carolina Heartland. He started dancing because he had enjoyed watching his friends dance and he wanted to participate in the fun.

He feels very fortunate to have discovered and taken lessons from Adina Harper whom he describes as very talented, passionate and determined in sharing her gift of dancing/teaching. With Adina's tutelage and encouragement, he says he would now like to try a few competitions, maybe next year. He very much enjoys the challenge of learning routines for showcases and competitions. He has performed in the Carolina Heartland Showcase and in other venues.

Mike recently assisted our chapter's efforts to spread the fun of dancing by being one of the "leaders" in the October free beginner lessons. His granddaughter Sophie also came along and enjoyed participating in the lessons. We learned the rest of his family includes a son, a daughter, and three other grandchildren.

Mike was born in Greensboro, grew up in Jamestown and Guilford College area and attended Guilford Middle School and Western Guilford High School. He later attended East Carolina University for two years. He is still fortunate to be his own boss in a plumbing business he established in 1985.

In addition to striving to perfect his dancing in competition and exhibitions, Mike also enjoys participating in social dancing several times a month. And he also enjoys spending time outdoors, pursuing activities such as hiking and swimming.

December "Gifts for Kids"

The FOX8/Salvation Army "Gifts for Kids" drive has gone on every Christmas season for 30 years, and collects thousands of NEW UNWRAPPED gifts every year. The gifts are then distributed to children (up to age 12) from families that cannot afford gifts for their children.

Carolina Heartland has been collecting the toys and gifts, as well as money, at our December dance for several years.

Salvation Army often receives toys and games of all sorts for younger children, but not enough gifts for those in the 9 to 12 year age group. Some possible gifts include suitable DVDs, jewelry and bead kits, board games, footballs, basketballs, soccer balls, art kits, rubbery boomerangs.

Cash or checks made out to Salvation Army will also be accepted. This allows them to buy the types of gifts they are short on.

At left, a prior year's December monthly dance.



Carolina Heartland
Treasury
Balance – \$2672

Triad Ballroom Dance Opportunities (all times PM)

Saturday, Dec. 1, 1st Saturday, Southfork Recreation Center, Winston-Salem, **Special Holiday Dance with live band**, 8:00-10:00, free admission. Contact: 336-659-4305.

Sunday, Dec. 2, 1st Sunday, **Tim Saunders Dance**, Guilford Grange, 4909 Guilford School Road, Greensboro, 3:30-5:30. Contact: Tim, 336-324-1924.

Friday, Dec. 7, 1st Friday, **Guilford Grange Dance**, Guilford Grange, 8-10. Contact: libsjohnson@triad.rr.com.

Saturday, Dec. 8, 2nd Saturday, **Horizon Holiday Dance**, Guilford Grange, 8-10. Contact: Lib Johnson, 336-659-4305. (No 2nd Saturday dance at Lewis Recreation Center in December).

Sunday, Dec. 9, 2nd Sunday, **Carolina Heartland Dance**, Guilford Grange. See details near top of page 1.

Friday, Dec. 14, 2nd Friday, **Dinner & Dance**, High Point Elks Lodge, 700 Old Mill Rd., Dinner 7:00; Dancing 8:00. Contact: Carolyn Williams, 336-945-3635.

Friday, Dec. 21, 3rd Friday, **Step Set Dance**, Guilford Grange, 8-10. Contact: Charlotte Jackson, 336-889-5534 or jercharjack@yahoo.com.

Saturday, Dec. 22, 4th Sat., **NO HORIZON DANCE ON THIS DATE**, dance was moved to 2nd Saturday for Dec. only.

Sunday, Dec. 30, 5th Sunday, **Piedmont USA Dance**, Early New Year's Dance. Jerry Long YMCA, Lesson at 4:00; dancing from 4:30-6:30. Contact: Marcia, 336-712-8183 or hmbar@aol.com.

November Dance

We had large attendance at our November 11 monthly dance, including several first-timers and several who had not visited our dance in a while.

The afternoon started with a fabulous rumba lesson taught by Tim Saunders, followed by social dancing to great music prepared by Rockie Troxler. There was a lot of energy in the room, and everyone seemed to have a good time.

We thank Wes and Lynette Smitherman, Melody Kearns, Rodger Haberfield, Lib Johnson, and Charlie Hafer who came in early to set up, and also Rodger Haberfield, who was treasurer. In addition, we thank all those who brought the delicious refreshments.

During the announcements period we held the election of officers for the 2019-2020 term. Those elected, were Mel Paterline, Melody Kearns, Charles Hafer, and Steve Rae ford. Hold-over board members include Sherri Rae ford, Rodger Haberfield, Lib Johnson, Lynette Smitherman, and Mark Lichtenberger. The election for board members for the 2020-2021 term will be held in November 2019.

Tim Saunders teaching rumba at our November Dance



Photos from October free beginner classes, taken by Sherri Rae ford



Left: students, and some more experienced dancers, practice rumba



Right: Student La Shandra practices rumba with Steve Rae ford