



# *Newsle tter*

Ballroom Dance Charleston SC - USA Dance Chapter 6021

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December 2015

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Thanksgiving Dinner 2015  
25 of our wonderful dancers shared this meal together. This was a very special event.

- Parties and Videos

## *President's Corner* by Pamela Levi

### **December 2015**

Happy Holidays and  
Highlights of 2015 Survey!

The Board members of  
Ballroom Dance Charleston  
and I wish each of you a safe  
and happy holiday. Whether  
you are celebrating Christmas,  
Hanukkah or other, the  
holiday season with it's  
message of love, caring, and

generosity towards others is a wonderful time of the year. The holidays are not  
always easy for many, but still they are an opportunity for joy, forgiveness and  
compassion. Having all of you as part of my "Dance Family" is a blessing I am  
extremely thankful for.

This is a very busy time of the year and getting to the annual meeting may be  
an event not yet on your calendar. The annual meeting is Saturday, Dec 19th  
at 2 pm, at the main library on Calhoun Street. Parking is usually not a  
problem as the library has its own parking facility. Your input, your  
suggestions and questions are welcome all year and especially at this meeting  
as we report on the "State of the first year at Pier Pont for BDC".

One of the highlights of the meeting will be the member's input from the 2015  
Survey. All the results and comments on the survey are available for members  
to read but -as promised- here are the highlights from the survey.

Who responded? 54 members, (4 non-members completed the survey but  
their answers are not included here)

How long had the respondents been members? 44% had been members  
more than five years, 40 % had been members longer than 5 years

Main reason for participation at BDC?: To dance at the parties (65%)

Number of members enrolled in weekly classes: 60%

Those in favor of maintaining Friday night progressive classes as is: 47%

Members interested In Sunday Tea Dances: 68% (monthly and  
occasionally)



### **Halloween Party Contest Winners:**

Maureen Matthews and  
Todd Biegger

Member interest in a Performance Team: 21% yes, 29% maybe, 32% no  
Best Number for Special Parties per month: Two-32%, One-35%  
Members in favor of staggered terms for Board members: 79%

We will be providing a comprehensive response and plan as a result of the survey. Many of the questions do not lend themselves to abbreviated percentages so you need to come to the meeting and hear plans for 2016 at Ballroom Dance Charleston!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND SAFE TRAVELS TO EACH OF YOU.

### *Birthdays*

Joyce Lovato.....December 1  
Payton Weber.....December 4  
Mark Mitchum.....December 5  
Robert Olszewski.....December 8  
Raymond Q Brown.....December 8  
Dean Cooke.....December 10  
Shiko Carter.....December 11  
Elizabeth Capalungan.....December 17  
John Bowler.....December 17  
Curt Crosby.....December 22  
Carole Cooper.....December 25  
Joseph Muchulsky.....December 25  
Stanley Ostendorff.....December 25  
Tamiko Walden.....December 25  
Dariana Coggins.....December 30  
Robert Seay.....December 31

### *Special Events*

**David Roland presents:  
Super Sunday Christmas Showcase  
Sunday, December 6, 2015**  
2:00pm - 5:00pm  
Tickets \$15 in advance; \$20 at the door  
Contact David Roland or Susan Groome  
for more information.

**Winter Wonderland Christmas Party  
Fund Raiser for Skip and Cheryl  
Christmas Food Share-a memory from  
Christmas  
Saturday, December 12, 2015**  
7:30pm Dance Party (no lesson)  
DJ: Susan Groome  
Reception: Connie Vance  
Hosts: Maureen Matthews and Jan Hyatt

**General Membership Meeting**  
Saturday, December 19, 2015  
Calhoun Library  
68 Calhoun Street  
Charleston, SC  
2:00pm

**New Year's Eve Ball**  
Thursday, December 31, 2015  
9:00pm - 1:00am  
DJ: Shirley Cooper  
Reception: Connie Vance  
Host: Marcia Hessert and Company

### *December Class and Instructor Profiles*

Please [click here](#) for complete Class and Instructor Profiles for December

### Group Classes Scheduled for December

**Monday: 7:00pm** Advanced Foxtrot, by Debbie Housand

**Tuesday: 7:00pm** Intermediate Viennese Waltz, by David Roland

**Wednesday: 7:00pm** Beginner Tango, by Debbie Housand

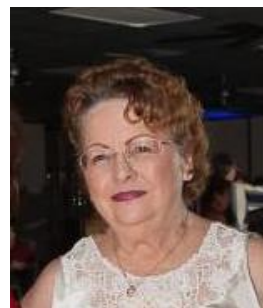
**Thursday: 6:00pm** Technique, by David Roland (3 weeks only; December 3, 10 and 17)

**Thursday: 7:00pm** Intermediate East Coast Swing, by Michael Hogarth - follows Debbie's beginner East Coast Swing class in November with the Intermediate level in December. (3 weeks only; December 3, 10 and 17)

**Saturday: 3:00pm** International Rumba, by James Jiang - 3 weeks only; December 5, 12, 19 (no lesson 26th)

### *November Mystery Dancer and Winner*

The Mystery Dancer for November was Stephanie Stone. Inga Sander guessed the right answer and received a free pass. Please be sure to look for Stephanie around the ballroom and tell her how much you enjoyed reading about her.



### *Update on Members*

**Skip Erckert** - Many of you already know Skip is battling cancer. He is undergoing Chemotherapy at this time. Skip is in good spirits and has no pain. He does get very tired easily. Day to day he and Cheryl feel he is doing very well. They miss everyone at the Ballroom and hope to be back dancing. Address: 103 Tyvola Drive; Summerville 29485.

**Bob Ramey** - Bob had surgery the 30th of September for his neck. The surgery was a success but there were serious complications which resulted in Bob being in ICU for 3 weeks and on a ventilator. He is home but he still cannot swallow and is on a feeding tube. A complete recovery is expected but it is a long recovery. Bob and Georgia can't wait to get back dancing. Address: 102 Teepee Court; Summerville 29483

**Lou and Marie Cristo** will be returning to the Ballroom shortly. We have missed them while they have been in Florida. We should see them some time around the beginning of December. We are looking forward to having them dancing again.

Please share good news with me as well as concerns. Our members are always asking about missing members and have requested updates on members who are under the weather and also things like new grandchildren, new jobs etc. People care and want to be able to keep our members in their thoughts and prayers. You can email information to me: [janryanhvatt@yahoo.com](mailto:janryanhvatt@yahoo.com)

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## *Spotlight on New Members*

**Karen and Bill Lackey** - Welcome to BDC. We are excited to

see you dancing with us. Karen and Bill were married in Rhode Island but then moved to North Carolina. They lived in Chapel Hill for 21 years and raised 3 children. They tried the New York City area for a few years but decided they wanted to move back to the Carolina's. Karen and Bill fell in love with the Charleston area and decided to re-locate here. They live in a wonderful community on Wadmalaw Island. Karen likes running and runs a lot and Bill is an avid kayaker. They enjoy spending time working in the vegetable garden together. Karen and Bill also love to ballroom dance. They are very fortunate to have two granddaughters and a grandson on the way. Thank you Monica and Jaime for inviting Bill and Karen to BDC.



**Michele Maurer** - BDC is very fortunate that Michele was driving by and saw our beautiful ballroom. Michele was born in St. Louis, MO and is a retired secretary. Michele's daughter and her family drew Michele to the beautiful Charleston area. In addition to Michele's daughter, she also has a son and 4 grandchildren. She loves to read, play the piano, work in the garden and travel. Obviously, since she joined immediately she loves ballroom dance too. Michele, we look forward to seeing you dancing!



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## *Parties and Videos*

Please [click here](#) for parties and videos.