

# Palmetto Ballroom Dance Club News



Vol. 15, No. 1

Winter 2014

## UPCOMING DANCES MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



- **March 14**
- **April 11**
- **May 9**

Dance lesson starts at 7:30; brief review of previous month's lesson starts at 7:15; open dancing from 8:30 to 10:45. Bring your favorite finger foods to share, and/or a door prize (value not to exceed \$10-12), and enjoy an evening of fun and fellowship. And don't forget to invite a friend – our monthly dances are a great introduction to ballroom dancing!

**See inside for the  
full schedule.**

## A Wonderful Nursing Home Gala

By Pauline & Vence Jelovchan

On Sunday December 8, 2013, dancers from the Palmetto Ballroom Dance Club and the Sumter Ballroom Dance Club came together for a Christmas showcase celebration for the residents at the Heritage Nursing Home in Florence, SC.

Participating from left to right (see picture below) and the dances performed were:

- Rich & Donna Gerner: Bolero, Polka
- Pauline & Vence Jelovchan: Waltz, Tango
- Josie & Galo Marqueses: Cha Cha, Tango
- Catherine & Bruce Blumberg: Waltz, Shag
- Al & Kay Roberson: Foxtrot
- Paul Purvis & Kay Roberson: Tango
- Ruth Kinsley & Bob Wall: Turbo Foxtrot, Hustle
- Group: River Dance

**Many thanks to all who participated!** There is no doubt that the residents thoroughly enjoyed their special Christmas entertainment and were talking about it for many days afterward!

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## From the President

Dear Friends,

We wish each and every one of you a very healthy 2014. The New Year makes me realize how fortunate Vence and I are to be in our 15th year of being members of the Palmetto Ballroom Dance Club. The club has seen many members come and go and many familiar faces since 1997.



One thing we all must realize is that promoting our club is very, very important. Last year, we had a "bring a guest or guests for free" month, we had a Fourth of July picnic with a real hot dog cooking machine and our special Christmas dinner with well done and appreciated spotlights. Since we don't have our Poynor Adult Center classes anymore, the recruitment of new members has slowed down. If anyone has new ideas for a monthly theme, please do not hesitate to let me hear from you. We are so glad to have Eddie as our DJ, and I want to thank every member for your support. Let's have a great 2014 Club year.

*Pauline Jelovchan*

Club President

## Club Membership

The PBDC tries to make it as easy as possible to experience ballroom dance in the Pee Dee. The PBDC is the only ballroom dance club within 60 miles. We as members must constantly recruit new dancers in hopes that they will join our club. In the past 6 months, many members have moved away, missed attending due to medical issues, etc. Pass the word and let's boost attendance this season.

Please renew your membership promptly when due. Our club depends on your dues to help pay for the hall, DJ and special treats throughout the season. If you have not renewed your membership, we urge you to fill out and send the form in this newsletter, along with your check, to the address shown.

### Palmetto Ballroom Dance Club Membership Application

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Annual membership dues are \$20 per person.

**Mail to: Palmetto Ballroom Dance Club, 410 Eastburn Ct., Darlington, SC 29532**



## Club Leadership 2013-14

### Officers & Board Members

**President:** Pauline Jelovchan  
*Pbjelovchan@yahoo.com*

**Vice-President:** Dorr Depew  
*dorrdepew@yahoo.com*

**Treasurer:** Janice Flowers

**Secretary:** Joann Groover  
*Jgroover22@yahoo.com*

**Andrea McKenzie**  
*andreamckenzie@ymail.com*

### Standing Committees

#### Dance Theme & Decorations:

Jane Snipes

#### Music and Band:

Vence & Pauline Jelovchan  
*Pauline: Pbjelovchan@yahoo.com*  
*Vence: Vjelovchan@aol.com*  
DJ - Eddie Collins

**Dance Instructors:** Vence and  
Pauline Jelovchan

**Assistant Instructors:** Rich and  
Donna Gerner

**Newsletter:** Dorr Depew

**Door Prize Chairpersons:** Rich  
and Donna Gerner

**Video Librarian:** Janice Flowers

**Webmaster:** Bruce Blumberg  
*bruceb@uscsumter.edu*



## Media Library

For some time now, we have been working on upgrading the instructional videos in our ballroom dance library. So far we have completed DVDs in: Waltz, Cha Cha, Tango, Rumba, Foxtrot, East Coast Swing, Bolero and Samba. These DVDs are available for loan to members of the PBDC. If interested, please see Janice Flowers who is responsible for maintaining the library. We ask that DVDs be signed out for only one month at a time to allow other members access.

**- Vence & Pauline**

## Decorating Help Wanted!

*We can always use help decorating the Leatherman Center for our monthly dance. If you have a flair for decorating, this is your chance to get involved! It does not require you to spend any money for we have an inventory of decorations available.*

*If you'd like to help with decorating, please call Jane Snipes at 669-1920 x 103 or email [janesnipes@northstarcorp.com](mailto:janesnipes@northstarcorp.com).*



**Dancing's a great way to keep  
warm this winter!**



## 2013 Dance Schedule

Dances are normally held on the second Friday of each month, except as noted \*.

### Here's the schedule for the remainder of 2014:

- March 14
- April 11
- May 9
- June 13
- July 11
- August 8\*
- September 12
- October 10
- November 14
- December 5

\* August dance to be confirmed

**Dance Lesson** from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. (review of previous month's lesson at 7:15).

**Open Dancing** from 8:30 til 10:45 p.m.

**Admission** - \$5 for members of the PBDC and \$10 for non-members.  
Dinner/Dance - \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members.

**Dance Location:** The Palmetto Ballroom Dance Club meets at The Leatherman Center, Freedom Blvd., Florence, SC.

## VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

For the very latest info about PBDC activities, including lots more photos and plenty of information, visit the club Web site:

<http://www.palmettodanceclub.org>



## Editor's Notes

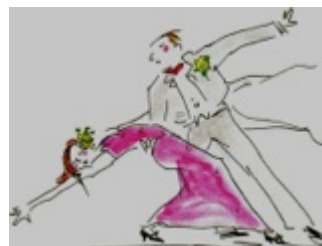
### Dear Friends,

A poet once wrote, "If Winter comes, can Spring be far behind?" With all of the cold weather we've had this year, we're all looking forward to springtime. It won't be long! But in the meantime, we have our monthly dances to look forward to! As Pauline mentions in her column, let's try to bring friends and introduce them to the fun of ballroom dancing!

The purpose of the PBDC Newsletter is to provide members and friends with news, features and information about ballroom dance in the Pee Dee. In this edition, you'll find a variety of articles about dancing, along with photos from our most recent dances. Your comments, suggestions and articles of interest for the newsletter are welcome and encouraged. Try your hand at writing a brief article about your dance experience.

You can email me at [dorrdepew@yahoo.com](mailto:dorrdepew@yahoo.com), send items via regular mail to 400 Church St., Cheraw, SC 29520, or call me at 843-910-2283. The newsletter is published four times a year. We encourage all club members to contribute news and information for the newsletter. Please submit items for the next issue when convenient, but no later than the end of March. Thanks!

**Dorr Depew**  
Newsletter Editor





## From Our Instructors - By Vence & Pauline Jelovchan



The following is a culmination of various tips, pointers, etc., that we have found to be very pertinent to our instruction at the club. We hope you find these beneficial.

### **LEADING AND FOLLOWING:**

- The man's responsibility is to "display" his partner. That may sound strange, but think of what you see in pairs skating; did you notice what the man did as his partner soared high overhead. Not likely; you see the woman, not the man.
- The man's responsibility is to safely direct and support her movements.
- The woman's responsibility is to "agree" and "execute" the man's lead. Remember, ladies, you are there to be displayed. You are to be treated like a queen. You're on stage.
- Gentlemen, this is perhaps the only time in life when you're in total control. **DON'T WASTE IT!**

### **INTRODUCING YOURSELF TO YOUR**

**LADY:** Gentlemen, when you approach your lady on the dance floor and take her in your arms, be courteous. Too often men grasp the lady with the same sensitivity expended on a car door, a jolting introduction of yourself to her. She deserves better than that. She awaits your support and lead and hopes, perhaps a bit wistfully, for a bit of chivalrous gallantry.

**MOVING FROM THE "CENTER":** Both dancers always keep their body weight centered. Stay centered, stay calm, and share the dance. It is the stuff of which life is made.

**BACKING THE LADY:** Please don't back the ladies in the dance if they're wearing floor length dresses. You'll force her to step on her skirt and you can both come crashing down — an embarrassment any gentleman would not bring upon himself and his partner. Take care of your ladies, gentlemen!

**POSTURE IN TURNING DANCES:** Ladies! I'm sure that you are totally unaware of the severe strain you place on the man's right arm in turning ballroom dances. Many men have experienced paralysis from having the dear ladies clamp down with their left arms to ensure a safe ride in a waltz.

The man should have his right arm rounded with the elbow high, supporting his partner with the inside of his right wrist and using the larger muscles in the chest and shoulder. He cannot do that if his partner uses a clamp to hold on.

Rather, ladies, keep your left hand behind the man's right shoulder with your left arm "melded" to his right arm. The task of holding the two of you together falls to both of you. Centrifugal force adds a great deal to your perceived weight in a spin and ladies must take the responsibility to contribute to the support of the turn.

**MEN'S PLACE IN DANCE:** The men's role in all this? As in most species on earth, the male is usually larger and stronger than his female partner. She is usually smaller, more graceful — and prettier. So the man became the "provider" of the dance. He is the source of energy and support to his partner with a dexterous combination of strength, leverage, and grace. He is also the "creator," the painter of movement, his partner the object of his creativity. The twin responsibilities of creating and providing can only be realized if the man is also the "leader." It is not a matter of male superiority or dominance; one cannot sculpt without controlling the medium. A violinist cannot play with someone else wielding the bow.

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Our modern social dance tends to relegate the man to the role of the unseen creator/provider and most women love it. To be safe in the arms of a considerate, imaginative, and supporting partner is near rapture to those who will let the dance envelope them.

Used with permission of the author.

*“Part of the joy of dancing is conversation. Trouble is, some men can't talk and dance at the same time. “*

# THRU THE VIEWFINDER

PHOTOS FROM RECENT DANCES  
*CHECK THE CLUB WEBSITE FOR MORE!*



