

Palmetto Ballroom Dance Club News



Vol. 17, No. 1

Winter 2016

UPCOMING DANCES MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



- **February 12 – Sweetheart Dance (black tie optional)**
- **March 11**
- **April 8**
- **May 13**

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.

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From Our Instructors

Line of Dance

By Vence Jelovchan

Let's take a few minutes to look at something that will help all of us dance better and enjoy dancing more – **Line of Dance**. Often, what we witness on the dance floor is dances such as the waltz, foxtrot & tango begin quite well, then the **5:00 traffic jam** begins and one spends most of the time trying to maneuver in and out to prevent collisions. Here are some pointers to reduce congestion on the dance floor.

The Line of Dance is an imaginary line which represents the counterclockwise flow of traffic around the dance floor. During traveling dances such as Waltz and Tango, all dancers will move in the same general counterclockwise direction, in order to minimize collisions.

Spot vs. Progressive

Every dance style from Tango to Cha Cha can be categorized as either a **Spot Dance** or a **Progressive Dance**. Spot dances are characterized by movements which cause the dancers to remain in one general area of the floor throughout the dance, whereas Progressive dances contain movements that cause dancers to travel continuously. The Line of Dance only applies to the latter category.

SPOT DANCES
(no line of dance)

Cha Cha
Rumba
Bolero
Swing/Jive
Mambo/Salsa
Merengue

PROGRESSIVE DANCES
(travel along line of dance)

Waltz
Tango
Viennese Waltz
Foxtrot
Quickstep
*Samba**
*Paso Doble**

* Note that all ballroom dances are classified as progressive

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dances, while most Latin dances are classified as spot dances. The two exceptions to this are Samba and Paso Doble, which have the distinction of being the only Latin dances that travel around the line of dance.

Movement Around L.O.D.

As you can see in the illustration, the line of dance is more of a rectangle than a circle (This is no accident, as most rooms are rectangular). This divides the line of dance into two distinct areas: (1) Sides, and (2) Corners. When dancing at the side of the room, you will travel along the line of dance toward the corner. When the corner is reached, you turn the corner and begin moving down the "new" line of dance.

Even during the progressive dances, not all movements will travel exactly along the Line of Dance. Some movements can travel across it, weave in and out, or even move against it for a short period of time. But the overall movement should continue to progress in the direction of the Line of Dance. The amount of wiggle room afforded to each dancer is dependent upon many factors, including the floor size, number of dancers on the floor, the dance, and the environment (e.g. social dancing, competition, showcase, etc.).

As a general rule, it is best to use the sides of the room to travel. The corners give you move flexibility to turn and change direction, since everybody does the same here. Stationary figures, lines, and poses should be reserved for the center of the room, where the flow of traffic is less pronounced.

Now back to your perspective on the floor. Line of dance is relative to yourself, depending on where you are on the rectangle. But the direction that you would move in to travel along a wall (counterclockwise looking from above the floor) is known as facing line of dance. From that, there are seven other directions that can be derived. Here are all 8 directions, each direction being 45 degrees counterclockwise to the previous direction:

Facing Line of Dance: Directly facing LOD.

Diagonal to Center

Center

Backing Diagonally to Wall

Backing Line of Dance

Backing Diagonally to Center

Wall

Diagonal to Wall

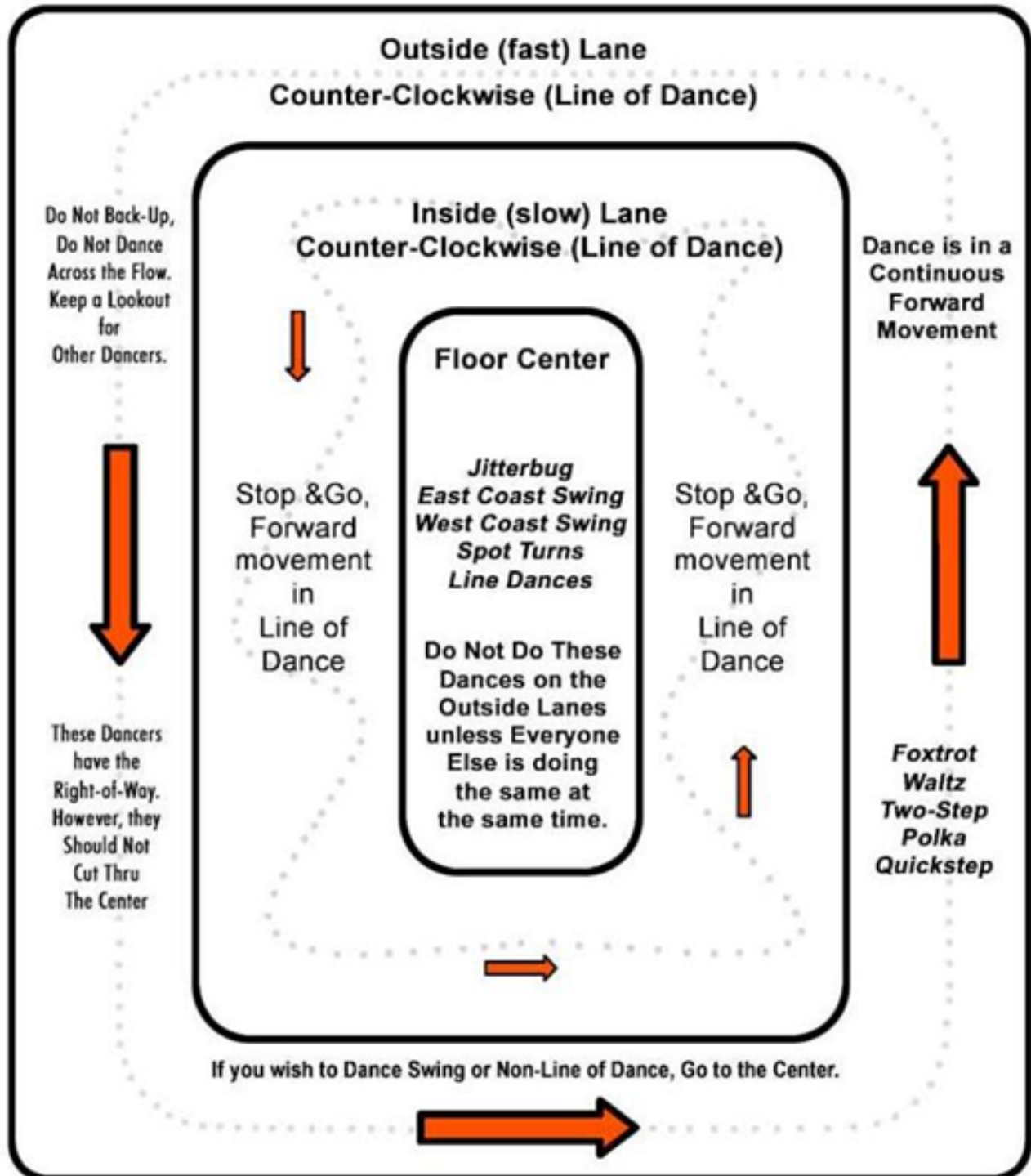
Note: Center is the Center of the Room. Wall is the Wall you are traveling along LoD.

**The chart on the next
page is a useful
Line of Dance summary.**



Dance Etiquette

Many Dancers and Many Styles of Dance Can Be Accommodated On The Floor At the Same Time. Lets Be Courteous, and We'll All Have A Great Time Dancing.



When Dancing the *Cha Cha*, *Rumba*, Dance in your Own Small Area, and Ignore the Diagram!



From the President



Dear Fellow Dancers,

We have had another successful year at the Palmetto Ballroom Dance Club. Our membership is steady and attendance is around 40+ each month. In October, we completed 18 years with great hopes of a 20th anniversary celebration in October 2017! In fact, put the second Friday of October 2017, on your calendar! The highlight of the year is always our Christmas dance/dinner. We had fabulous spotlight dances – it's hard to tell the difference between TV Dancing With the Stars and our dancers! Thank you, again, to all those who gave their efforts and talents for the club to view. The future looks bright, but we always, always want more members. Let's have 2016 be a record year, welcoming new members and enjoying ballroom dancing together!

“Dance brings color to your life.”

Fondly,

Pauline Jelovchan
Club President



Playlist suggestions welcome! If you'd like to suggest favorite songs for our monthly dance playlists, email DJ Eddie Collins at eddiecollins@sc.rr.com.



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



Club Leadership 2014-15

Officers & Board Members

President: Pauline Jelovchan
Pbjelovchan@yahoo.com

Vice-President: Jane Snipes
Janesnipes@northstarcorp.com

Treasurer: Janice Flowers

Secretary: Andrea McKenzie
andreamckenzie@ymail.com

Standing Committees

Dance Theme & Decorations:
Marilyn Mong

Music and Band:

Vence & Pauline Jelovchan
Pauline: Pbjelovchan@yahoo.com
Vence: Vjelovchan@aol.com

DJ - Eddie Collins

eddiecollins@sc.rr.com

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



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 Marilyn Mong at 665-7513 or email Marilyn.mong@att.net.

Media Library

Big news! We have just added a Salsa DVD to our instructional library! We also have 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

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 year.

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.

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>



2016 Dance Calendar

Dances are held on the second Friday of each month, unless **noted***.

- February 12
- March 11
- April 8
- May 13
- June 10
- July 8 **
- August 12 **
- September 9
- October 14
- November 11
- **December 2***

** - *subject to change*

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.

* Christmas 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.



Editor's Notes

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a great Christmas holiday and that your New Year has gotten off to a good start. We certainly had some memorable weather...who would believe running air conditioning on Christmas Day in South Carolina?! Old Man Winter seems to have returned now, so I hope we enjoyed the warm weather while it lasted! I look forward to seeing everyone at our next dance.

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, 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 as soon as possible! Thanks!

Dorr Depew
Newsletter Editor

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



THRU THE VIEWFINDER



PHOTOS FROM RECENT DANCES
CHECK THE CLUB WEBSITE FOR MORE!

