

Palmetto Ballroom Dance Club News



Vol. 18, No. 2

Fall 2017

UPCOMING DANCES MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



- December 1 –
Holiday Dance
(black tie optional)
- January 12
- February 9 –
Valentine Dance
(black tie optional)
- March 9
- April 13
- May 11
- June 8

Dance lesson starts at 7:30; 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! Cost is \$5 for members, \$10 for non-members (charge may be added for dinner dances).



Dance Pros Headline PBDC's 20th Anniversary Celebration

Way back in 1997, before "Dancing With The Stars" brought ballroom dancing into millions of American homes every week, a group of friends in Florence started meeting to dance and socialize. They were mostly beginners – folks who wanted to learn some basic dance steps and have fun practicing. The organization they formed – the Palmetto Ballroom Dance Club (PBDC) – celebrated its 20th anniversary October 13 with a gala anniversary dance at the Leatherman Senior Center in Florence.

The black tie optional event featured performances and lessons by dance professionals Karolina Spziech and Max Maleschko, from Charlotte, NC, along with a delicious buffet dinner and an evening of dancing and fellowship for the more than 60 members and guests in attendance. Many former club members and officers returned to Florence to

attend.

"It was a fabulous evening," said PBDC President Pauline Jelovchan. "Enthusiasm just took over the room!"

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KAROLINA SZPIECH

Professional Dancer, Instructor, Coach,
Choreographer, and Judge

Born in Poland, Karolina started her dancing career at the age of seven. Karolina possesses more than twenty years of dance experience and a renowned reputation within the dance community. As a competitive dancer, she is a finalist in most of the major Amateur and Professional competitions on both National and International levels.

Among her list of titles, Karolina is the champion in some of the most prestigious tournaments: - United States Rising Star 2008 - Open to the World Rising Star 2008 - Embassy Ball Professional Open Rising Star 2008 - Capital Dancesport Championships



20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION (continued from page 1)

The decorations were beautiful, the food – all prepared by members – was delicious, and the dance performances and lessons by Karolina and Max were fantastic.” She said the two professionals, who teach in Charlotte, were “extremely friendly – talking and visiting with everyone – an absolute delight.” They performed several quickstep and waltz routines for everyone’s enjoyment, and also gave a waltz lesson. “They were very

smooth and relaxed as they taught and demonstrated,” Pauline continued, “and they said how much they liked our club – how friendly and sociable we were.”

Many former members joined PBDC “regulars” for the evening. Pauline recognized past presidents Reggie Armstrong, Nancy Quintero, and Maggie Reece, along with former club instructor Ellen Simmons. Past board members in attendance included Reggie Armstrong, Kevin Casper, Cara Murphy, and Helene Ellis. Pauline also recognized longtime member Janice Flowers, who has served as club treasurer for many years. Other PBDC “old-timers” returning for the anniversary dance included Casey Amato, Mark and Kim Riggs, and Cara and Larry Murphy. Several members from the Sumter Ballroom Dance Club were also in attendance, as well as Sheila Brown, who operates the Barn dance venue in Lexington, SC.

The evening featured a fond and emotional look back over the club’s 20-year history. Pauline, who

joined the club in 1998 and has been one of the club’s instructors for more than 10 years, honored her late husband, Vence, who was her co-instructor and a strong supporter of the club until his death in February 2017. “I know that Vence was there with us in spirit,” she said. Pauline also thanked all members for their hard work in growing the club over the years and helping to introduce many people to the fun of ballroom dancing.



MAX MALESHKO

Professional Dancer, Instructor, Coach, Choreographer, and Judge

Originally from Siberia, Max started dancing at the age of 11. His interest in dancing was mainly focused on International Latin and Standard Ballroom dance styles. While in Russia, Max had a very successful dancing career. He won the Champion of Siberia title for three years in a row and also was a finalist in a number of Russian and European Open Championships.

Upon arriving to the United States, Max competed at the Open to the World Championship in the International Latin division, and won the 2007 Florida State Dancesport Championships in the Professional Ballroom division.

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.

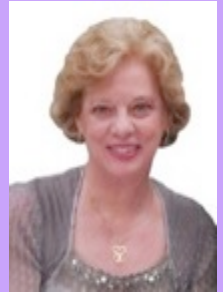
Please renew your membership promptly when due. Our club depends on your dues to help pay for the hall, and for special treats throughout the season. If you have not renewed your membership, we urge you to fill out and send the form in this newsletter, along with your check, to the address shown.



From the President

I am sure there are more expressive words for our 20th anniversary celebration, but **wow** seems to say it all. If you weren't there, you really missed a great time. I try very hard to let all members and guests know how much we appreciate them. This club could not have made it to 20 years without all the hard work of members and board members.

As I have said before, there is a ton of behind the curtain work that goes on every month. I would venture to say that 60 plus man-hours went into the planning of this event. The food was way over the top delicious. The decoration committee did such a fabulous job. Marilyn with her creativity and helpers Corliss and Jesse. Sandy Adams ironed every one of those chair covers to perfection. Rich is doing such a great job in providing music and sharing his talents as a dance instructor.



Your board, consisting of me, Jane Snipes as vice president, Jesse Adams as secretary, Janice Flowers as treasurer and Marilyn Mong as decorating chair, give their all in every way possible, and then some. Dorr creates a wonderful newsletter and Bruce manages the website with ease. Josie manages the name tags for us and they are actually a lot of work as they must be maintained and updated. The paper products we need every month are inventoried and handled by Paul. And how do we say thank you except just **thank you** to the Snipes for storing our decorations?! Every month we have food and door prizes brought in by our members and guests. And, how about the entertainment and lesson by Max and Karolina!! What a treat!

Also, thank you to past presidents and past board members and past members that came to congratulate us. I am sure I left out somebody or something. Forgive me. Our December dance is the first Friday in December. Details are in this newsletter. Welcome to all new members and we welcome guests at all times.

I love you all,

Pauline Jelovchan

Club President

HOLIDAY DANCE DECEMBER 1!

The Palmetto Ballroom Dance Club invites you to attend our annual Holiday Dance on **Friday, December 1**, at the Leatherman Senior Center. This will be a black tie optional event and promises to be a really special evening! We'll start off with dinner at 7 p.m. – an Italian buffet provided by the club. Then we'll enjoy watching spotlight dances, followed by an evening of open dancing and fellowship. (No dance lesson this month.) Cost of the Holiday Dance is \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members.

RSVP by November 28 to Pauline Jelovchan – pbjelovchan@yahoo.com.

We look forward to seeing you December 1!



2017-18 Leadership

President: Pauline Jelovchan
Pbjelovchan@yahoo.com
Vice-President: Jane Snipes
Janesnipes@northstarcorp.com
Treasurer: Janice Flowers
Secretary: Jesse Adams
jesseadms@sc.rr.com

Standing Committees

Dance Theme & Decorations:
 Marilyn Mong
Marilyn.mong@att.net

Music and Band:
 Rich Gerner
shamrockrjg@aol.com
 Pauline Jelovchan
Pbjelovchan@yahoo.com

Dance Instructors: Rich Gerner and Pauline Jelovchan
Assistant Instructor: Donna Gerner

Newsletter: Dorr Depew
dorrdepew@yahoo.com

Door Prize Chairpersons: Rich and Donna Gerner

Video Librarian: Janice Flowers

Webmaster: Bruce Blumberg
bruceb@uscsumter.edu



Editor's Notes

Dear Friends,

As we move into fall, with the holiday season ahead, we have a lot to be thankful for. Family, friends, the opportunity to gather together...all are blessings!

This newsletter contains the highlights of the PBDC's 20th Anniversary Dance. What a great milestone for our club!

I hope you and your family have a great holiday season!

Dorr Depew
 Newsletter Editor

Why not try your hand at writing a brief article about your dance experience? You don't have to be a great dancer...or a great writer...to tell your dance story! Just send it to me and we'll include it in a future newsletter. I'll even edit and polish if you like!

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!

**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!

