# PAT PALLAS

It seems I’ve been doing this dancing thing forever and still loving it. I can’t actually recall the exact year I got started but I do know it was in the early 90’s so it’s got to be 20 years ago. I started dancing in Kitchener, Ontario at Bingeman Park with Marilee and Mike Derby. At the time, hubby Joe and I were looking for somewhere to learn the kind of couples dancing we were seeing on “Club Dance” and “The Wildhorse Saloon” on TV (now that’s dating ourselves isn’t it). We heard there was dancing at Bingeman Park, pay as you go, no experience required. Sounded like it was just what we were looking for so off we went. Well, when we arrived that first night we discovered it was “Line Dancing.” The couple’s lessons were on another night. Needless to say we stayed to see what it was all about. I remember watching the group dance “Midnight Waltz” choreographed by Jo Thompson and thinking “I’ve got to learn that dance”. It was so beautiful. Learn it I did and was hooked. Can’t say the same for Joe but he gave it a try. We did pick up the couple’s night very shortly after. Who’d have thought this many years later we’d not only still be dancing but we’d be teaching.

In 2001 we took advantage of early retirement and relocated to Sauble Beach (a beautiful beach community on Lake Huron). Our dream come true!! It wasn’t very long however before we were missing our dancing and with the encouragement/prodding of friends got into teaching. We started teaching couples “Country and Swing ” in 2002 and that has since expanded to include Ballroom. I started my first line dance class in 2003 and currently have 2 line dance classes a week.

We have travelled far and wide to attend workshops, dance camps etc, pursuing our love of dance. Over the years we have taught line &/or couples at several events: Dancin’ For Miracles, Happyfeet in Orangeville, The Canadian Classic, The Fall Fair Line Dance Extravaganza, Thornhill Dance Jamboree etc.

What a great way to enjoy our dancing while reconnecting with old friends and meeting new friends along the way.

Joe & I enjoy spending our winters in Arizona, hiking, biking, playing tennis and of course fitting in some line & couples dancing.

I’m looking forward to a fun filled workshop. Many thanks to Vivienne, Fred and Eddie for inviting me to teach.

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