



Northern Virginia
Country-Western Dance Association
NEWSLETTER



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President's Report

by Gary Campbell

Well, it's time again for the message from El Presidente. As always I want to thank some people. Our dance instructors and DJs work very hard to bring us fun dances to learn with a great mix of music to dance to. They do a great job in keeping all of us on the floor with a mix of couples and line dances. The instructors and DJs are open to suggestions and requests for dances and music, so make your requests known. Also, I want to thank all of you who come to the dances for supporting us. You are the ones that make our dances so much fun.

We need your involvement on the Board of Directors (see related article). Before the election, we thought we had people for Dance Director and Special Events, but those people withdrew their names for personal reasons. We've had a couple of "nibbles" from other people who might be interested since then, but as of the middle of June, we had four vacancies. We on the Board are always looking for fresh and new ideas in an effort to keep the Association moving forward and making the dances better. Please consider joining the Board. Bring your ideas and enthusiasm to work with us to make this Association even stronger.

Since I am talking about the Board, let's welcome our newest members. Charter Member Joyce Leamon has joined us as our new Secretary. She is replacing two long time Board members, Pat Kelley and Ella Broughton, who were Co-Secretaries during 2006-2007. Before that, at various times Pat and Ella both have served as President and did fantastic jobs. We owe Pat thanks for the great job she did on the New Year's Eve Dance as well. We will miss their

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Some of the incoming Board Members after their election on May 5, left to right: Donna Dennis (Treasurer), Joyce Leamon (Secretary), Gary Campbell (President), Barbara Smith (Vice President), Kerie Hitt (Communications). Not pictured: Tim Sizer (Membership), Luella Montgomery (Steppers rep) and Bobby Orndorff (Past President)

Thank you 2006-2007 Board

Gary Campbell, *President*
Barbara Smith, *Vice President*
Donna Dennis, *Treasurer*
Liz Logan, *Treasurer*
Patricia Kelley, *Co-Secretary*
Ella Broughton, *Co-Secretary*
Connie Streeter, *Dance*
Rick Humbert, *Planning*
Kerie Hitt, *Communications*
Tim Sizer, *Membership*
Richard Chiu, *Steppers*
Cathy DeLoach, *At Large*
Bobby Orndorff, *Past President*

Welcome 2007-2008 Board

Gary Campbell, *President*
Barbara Smith, *Vice President*
Donna Dennis, *Treasurer*
Joyce Leamon, *Secretary*
Kerie Hitt, *Communications*
Tim Sizer, *Membership*
Luella Montgomery, *Steppers*
Bobby Orndorff, *Past President*
??Dance??
??Planning??
??At Large??
??Special events??

Italics indicate six Board Members who will continue to serve in 2007-2008.

\$1 off admission...

if you wear red, white, and blue to the July 7 Independence Day Dance.

Our August 18 Dance will be at a New Location

Elan DanceSport Center
8442-A Lee Highway
Fairfax, VA 22031
(near the Merrifield Post Office)

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2007-2008 NVCWDA Board of Directors

OFFICERS

President	Gary Campbell 703/858-0701
Vice President	Barbara Smith 703/642-9267
Secretary	Joyce Leamon 703/978-3220
Treasurer	Donna Dennis 703/264-7891

DIRECTORS

Dance	Vacant
Communications	Kerie Hitt 703/758-8183
Membership	Tim Sizer 703/327-8764
Planning	Vacant
Special Events	Vacant
At Large	Vacant
Steppers	Luella Montgomery 703/971-2931
Past President	Bobby Orndorff 703/560-6810

The NVCWDA is a non-profit organization dedicated to teaching and promoting CW dancing for the enjoyment of our members and friends.

The *NVCWDA Newsletter* is published bimonthly by the Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association, Inc.; P.O. Box 384; Merrifield, VA 22116-0384. Initial memberships and annual renewals are \$18 per year, or \$30 for two years payable to NVCWDA at the address below. Advertising deadline is the 10th of the preceding month. Advertising rates: camera ready full page display ads, \$160; 1/2 page, \$80; 1/4 page, \$40; business-card ads, \$20. Send prepaid advertising material to Lydia Vitale, 20295 Broad Run Drive, Sterling, VA 20165.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to NVCWDA Membership Director, P.O. Box 384, Merrifield, VA 22116-0384

Communications Report

by Kerie Hitt

Several dancers have noticed my blue name tag recently and have asked me if I am a Country Stepper. Not to knock the Steppers, but I was a little dismayed to realize that people don't know what the blue tags mean. If they'd looked closer, they would have seen that the tag says I am Communications Director. While you might not see many people wearing the tags at this point because we are missing so many Board Members, a blue name tag signifies that the person is on the NVCWDA Board of Directors. Next time you see someone wearing a blue name tag, you should thank the person for volunteering to work for you.

We started our "new year" missing *four* Board Members, which is a disappointment. I've served on the Board when we've been down a member or two, but I don't recall having this many vacancies. At our first meeting of the new Board, which included *both* the incoming and outgoing Boards of Directors, we barely had a quorum! In the past, the other Board members have pitched in to cover for a missing member, but I am less inclined to burden myself with other duties at this point. I simply don't have enough free time. After being on the Board since 2002, I sometimes feel like a horse that has been "ridden hard and put away wet," but I'm committed to helping on the Board for another year. I hope everyone understands that we might need to let some things at the dances slide because the people who are serving can handle only so many tasks, which makes me think of another animal analogy about the

straw that broke the camel's back...

Donna's report (see summary of board meeting) that we did not take in enough money to cover our expenses over the past year was sobering. We must tighten our belts again and assess what we can do to keep NVCWDA's financial head above water.

At our dance on June 2, we encountered a very sticky floor in the Counsel Room. We've run into this problem at one time or another in just about every place we've danced, especially in the summer when the weather is humid. The last time we had an extremely sticky floor—at Poe almost exactly a year ago—I did an article about "How to Dance on a Slow Dance Floor." I've reworked that same article and have included it in this newsletter as the information seems timely again. We apologize for the state of the floor; it usually is fine, and at times I've thought it has been on the slippery side. I reported the problem to the Church. They do not have a regular staff person right now who is dedicated to setting up and taking down the rental events. They said that a hired crew should have cleaned the room beforehand, after the "reception for the kindergartners" on Friday. So that explains the messy floor! At our dance on June 16, the floor in the Counsel room was great and the AC was working well.

Because neither room at Our Lady of Good Counsel is available on August 18, we plan to dance at Elan DanceSport Center in Merrifield. They have a nice wooden dance floor, although it has fewer tables than we're used to. Elan provides dance lessons for various types of partner dancing and is very interested in promoting country-western dancing at the facility. If the place works out for us we might use it more often. Be sure to check it out.

COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

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703/823-5673

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Manassas, VA 703/369-5454

Newsletter Deadline

**10th of August for articles, reports
and news items**

E-mail to: communications@nvcwda.org

Send Microsoft Word, PageMaker or Text Files.
Send photos separately as tif, eps, jpeg, or bitmap
files (high resolution)

Benefit Dance Raises \$3500 for Fisher House

by Kerie Hitt

Our April 21 benefit dance for Fisher House raised \$3500, including \$3100 from NVCWDA and \$400 in checks from members payable directly to Fisher House. Thanks again to everyone who helped whether by buying a ticket to the dance, purchasing a tee shirt, participating in the silent auction, and so on. At our dance on May 5, NVCWDA President Gary Campbell presented our donation to the local Fisher House representative. We received the following letter of appreciation several weeks later.

Dear Mr. Campbell:

On behalf of the Fisher family and the rest of the Board of Trustees, Fisher House Foundation, Inc., please accept our heartfelt gratitude for your generous contribution of \$3,100.00 through your Country Western Dance Night Fundraiser. It is through donations such as yours that the Fisher House Foundation, Inc., is able to continue having a positive impact on the quality of life of "our greatest national treasure...our military service men and women and their loved ones."

Your donation to Fisher House is even more meaningful as our thoughts and prayers are with America's service men and women engaged in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The many military and veterans' families, who will benefit from your thoughtfulness, join me in expressing our collective appreciation for your generosity. Thank you!

Sincerely,
FISHER HOUSE FOUNDATION, INC.
/signed/
David A. Coker
President

Sign up to Bring Refreshments

If nobody volunteers to be Member at Large, for a while we might continue to ask members to sign up to bring food and drinks to the dances. The sign up sheet should be available at the dances. Save your receipts! We will reimburse you for your expenses provided you sign up beforehand and fill out a NVCWDA expense voucher, available from Donna Dennis.

President's Report

—continued from page 1

input, though they still will be around to keep an eye on us. We also welcome Luella Montgomery, who is taking Richard Chiu's place as Steppers Rep. Luella has been on the Steppers since 1995, and we have been friends for a good 15 years. Thank you to outgoing Board members Pat, Ella, Connie Streeter, Rick Humbert, Liz Logan, Cathy DeLoach, and Richard Chiu for helping during 2006-2007.

Congratulations to George Morse, who has been elected our latest Life Member. We plan to recognize George at a dance in the fall. We'll keep you posted on the date.

On July 7 we will have our Independence Day Dance. If you wear red, white and blue (keep it visible, no searches please), you will get a dollar off the admission. Linda and Keith Buckle will do the decorations that night. A very important note: On August 18, we'll be dancing at a new location, Elan DanceSport Center, in Merrifield.

Again, I hope you will consider one of the Board openings. Please think hard, but not long, about joining. There just is no way five Board members can do nine jobs. I look forward to seeing every one of you at the upcoming dances. Until then, be safe, have fun, and keep dancing.

NVCWDA 2007 DANCE SCHEDULE

7:30 p.m. – 11:30 p.m. • Free dance lessons 7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Date	Event	Location	DJ	Review*		Regular Lesson		
				Reviewer	Dance	Time	Instructor(s)	Dance
July 7	Independence Day Dance	OLGC-Counsel Rm	Vitale	Bernie and Lydia	Six Pack Summer (specialty dance)	7:50 p.m.	Dale and Anita Strawser	Waltz move (couples)
July 21		OLGC-Counsel Rm	Cole	Eileen, Bernie and Lydia	Line dances taught in 2007			Continue line dance reviews
Aug 4		OLGC-DeSales Rm	Fanelli	Keith and Linda Buckle	Progressive move (couples)	8:00 p.m.	Steppers	Sidekick (specialty dance)
Aug 18		Elan DanceSport Center	Handy	Eileen	Billy's got his Beer Goggles on LD	8:00 p.m.	Brian and Kathy O'Connor	Two-step basic (couples)

*Reviews at 7:30 p.m. usually cover a dance or move that was taught previously as a regular lesson or introduce a simple new line dance.

Admission: \$8 members / \$10 Non-members. Children under 18 free with an adult; ages 16-20 with student ID \$5.
Members PSDC, SMCWDA, and CCWDA: \$8.

Monitor hotline and website for advance notice on September dances.

Dance Schedule

July 2007



NVCWDA Dances
Our Lady of Good Counsel/Elan DanceSport Center
Free Dance Lessons
 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. Lessons
 Dance Reviews usually 7:30 - 8:00 p.m. (schedule pg. 3)
 Dance 8:30 - 11:30 p.m. at OLGC



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Reston Com. Center	2	3	Independence Day 4 Dawn & Dean CH	5	6 PSDC Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita	7 NVCWDA OLGC Counsel Room Independence Day Dance
8	9	10	11 Dawn & Dean CH	12	13 Bowling Green PSDC Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita	14 Swingin' Country at the Dance Factory
15	16	17	18 Dawn & Dean CH	19	20 PSDC Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita	21 NVCWDA OLGC Counsel Room
22	23	24	25 Dawn & Dean CH	26	27 Bowling Green PSDC Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita	28 SMCWDA Brandywine
29	30	31	SUMMER		Schedule changes can occur. Please contact dance organizers directly to confirm events.	

August 2007

Gail Smith runs dances most Mondays and Thursdays.
 Check her website for times and directions:
http://users.adelphia.net/~rgsmith46/ATD_home.html

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Dance lessons by Eileen Scott: American Legion, Amhearst Avenue, Springfield, ongoing line dance class on Monday nights except holidays at 8:00-9:30 p.m. For more information contact Eileen at escott5678@verizon.net or 703-370-1485.			1 Dawn & Dean CH	2	3	4 NVCWDA OLGC DeSales Room
5 Reston Com. Center	6	7	8 Dawn & Dean CH	9	10 PSDC Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita	11 Bowling Green Swingin' Country at the Dance Factory
12	13	14	15 Dawn & Dean CH	16	17 PSDC Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita	18 NVCWDA Elan DanceSport Center
19	20	21	22 Dawn & Dean CH	23	24 PSDC Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita	25 SMCWDA Brandywine
26	27	28	29 Dawn & Dean CH	30	31 Bowling Green PSDC Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita	

Dawn & Dean CH = Cherry Hill, MD
 For more information on dances see contact information listed with directions (How Do I Get There) on page six.

PSDC Fridays = Country/Swing Mix
 Vienna American Legion
 (w/Beginner & Int. Lessons)
<http://www.jimandpeggy.com>

Line Dance Lessons
 Monday Nights at Sterling, VA
 7:00-9:00 p.m. - Bernie & Lydia Vitale
dancenl@comcast.net or call 703-430-2398

Four Facts about Vacant Board Positions

by Gary Campbell

As President, I must tell you some important facts that you, the members, need to know about the four unfilled Board positions and what could happen if we can't fill these positions. We can't run the Association without a full set of Board Members. NVCWDA is a corporation, and our rules of order require us to have a minimum number of directors to conduct business. We need your help. Don't think that you are too new to NVCWDA or too inexperienced or that your thoughts won't count. Please get involved—you may find that serving is more fun and rewarding than you thought.

Truth #1: Member at Large (coordinates refreshments for the dances): *If we don't get a volunteer, then we won't have anyone in charge of food or drinks after June. Having no food or drinks at our dances is a scary thought.*

Truth #2: Special Events Director (plans special dances like Anniversary and New Year's Eve and coordinates volunteers for those dances): *If we don't get a volunteer, then we won't have special dances for our 21st Anniversary, Halloween, Toys for Tots, or New Year's Eve. What will you be doing on New Year's Eve instead of dancing?*

Truth #3: Dance Director (sets up dance lessons and DJ contracts): Connie Streeter has done a great job of lining up instructors through August and DJ contracts through the end of the year. *If we can't get this position filled, we won't have dance lessons after August, and we won't have any music for dancing after December. Everyone can dance to his or her own drummer.*

Truth #4: Planning Director (arranges places for us to dance): We have a place to dance for most of the summer and fall, *but if we can't fill this position, we won't have anywhere to dance after that.*

Notice of Possible Fee Increases

NVCWDA did not meet expenses over the past year, and our rent is going up in the fall. The Board will be discussing ways to bring in more income to remedy the situation. Our primary sources of income are dance admissions, membership fees, and donations. Please be advised that the Board plans to consider increasing dance admission fees and/or membership dues. We will do everything possible to minimize any rate hikes and will announce our decisions in the newsletter and at the dances before any increases take effect.

COUNTRY STORES

Show an active NVCWDA membership card before making purchase and get a discount on regularly priced merchandise.

The Silver Parrot
703/549-8530
113 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

W. J. Colt & Company **Sal's Shoe Repairing**
703/971-7555 703/941-9864
6690 Springfield Mall 7312 Little River Tpke.
Springfield, VA 22150 Annandale, VA 22003

Summary of June 6 Board Meeting

by Kerie Hitt

Present: Gary Campbell, Joyce Leamon, Donna Dennis, Kerie Hitt, Pat Kelley, Luella Montgomery, Bob Orndorff

This meeting brought together the outgoing and incoming Board members, although many of the outgoing members exercised their new found freedom and did not attend. Pat Kelley is the outgoing Secretary and Joyce Leamon is the incoming Secretary. Luella Montgomery is the new Steppers rep. The rest of the Board members present were on the 2006-2007 Board and are continuing to serve during 2007-2008. Kerie will update the contact list and will send it out.

Treasurer Donna Dennis went back through our records for the past year and determined that the Association took in about \$4000 less than we spent during May 1, 2006 to April 30, 2007. Our membership dues just about covered our membership costs (printing and mailing the newsletter and other postage related to membership). However, our other major source of income—dance admission—did not even cover our expenses for rent, DJs, and refreshments, let alone our costs for insurance, ASCAP, mailbox, hotline, and

other overhead. Donna also distributed dance profit and loss statements for our most recent dances. We broke even at the May 5 and June 2 dances, but we lost \$170 at the May 19 dance when only 44 people attended. The balance in our account at the end of May was \$5715.94. The Board asked Donna to develop an annual budget based on our current fixed expenses. We will use the budget to discuss ideas for staunching our losses. We probably won't spend as much for refreshments so that will help reduce costs. Possibilities for increasing income include raising admissions or limiting free passes. Donna will try to determine the breakdown of the free admissions—that is, how many are Board Members, free passes, dance coupons, dance cards, or birthdays—and will report back at our next meeting.

Our Lady of Good Counsel is not available for our dance on August 18 and we discussed other locations. Outgoing Dance Director Connie Streeter had checked with Epiphany Church; it charges \$500 and was not available in August anyway. She also checked Christian Center Ministries on Franconia Road. They set up for church on Saturdays so we couldn't use the room on Saturday nights. Kerie had called Ft. Myer to get their current rates. They charge \$450 for the first 3 hours and \$40 per hour for

each additional hour with a \$50 nonrefundable fee for the kitchen. Kerie will call Green Acres Community Center to see if it is open on August 18. Pat will call Elan DanceSport Center in Merrifield. Luella will call a church on Keene Mill. If we can't find a place to dance on August 18, we will need to cancel the dance. [Update 6/17/2007: We plan to dance at Elan DanceSport Center on August 18.]

Kerie will set up the fall schedule with Our Lady of Good Counsel. They are raising their rates by \$100 per room in September to \$200 for the Counsel Room and \$250 for DeSales Hall.

Gary will try to get the Bylaws Review going with Joyce Leamon and Lydia Vitale.

We discussed how to handle refreshments since nobody had volunteered for Member at Large. People signed up to bring food and drinks for the June 16 and June 30 dances so those dances were covered. We will reimburse people for their expenses if they are on the volunteer sign up sheet and if they provide receipts.

We talked about the difficulties we face in having four vacant positions on the Board of Directors. If we can't get more people on the Board we might need to start cutting back on what we provide, for example, stop giving lessons. We will ask for volunteers again in the next newsletter and at the dances.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

July Birthdays

7/02 Jill York
 7/03 Elizabeth Simpson
 7/06 Murray Ross
 7/07 Faye Morse
 7/08 John Guinn
 7/09 Jim Davies
 7/13 Mickey Poole
 7/14 Susan Glaze
 7/14 Diane Guinn
 7/15 Richard Chiu
 7/16 Linda Buckle
 7/20 Mary Ellen McGovern
 7/22 Carol Caruso
 7/22 Kerie Hitt
 7/24 James Bucko
 7/25 Dianne Arendts
 7/27 Sandra Bush
 7/27 John Gentile
 7/27 Nancy Sass
 7/31 John Easpes

August Birthdays

8/09 Dale Strawser
 8/11 Bob Arendts
 8/13 Larry Kaelin
 8/14 Patty Orndorff
 8/17 Anita Huffman Strawser
 8/19 Gregory Fowler
 8/19 Lydia Vitale
 8/21 Richard Dawson
 8/25 Mary Ann Steward
 8/28 Mark Schellhammer
 8/30 George Jones
 8/30 Eileen Schreiber
 8/31 Patricia Donovan

Welcome New Members

Joyce Carnegie
 Esther (Peggy) Denlap
 Larry Kaelin

Raymond Price
 Mark Schellmanner
 Susan Scott



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Catherine.DeLoach@longandfoster.com

NO VA OFFICE
 6045 Burke Centre Parkway
 Burke, Virginia 22015-3751

CLIFTON OFFICE
 7137 Main Street
 Clifton, VA 20124



Special Introductory Offer

for people who have not been to a NVCWDA dance before...

★One free admission:

No charge for the first NVCWDA dance you attend.

★Two bonus months:

Join NVCWDA during your first dance and get 2 months extra added to a 1-year membership.

Please fill out the information below, and present this coupon at the door.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

Limit one coupon per person.

07/07

HOW DO I GET THERE?

Bowling Green Country Club (CCWDA), From I 66 West take Rt 522 North exit (Front Royal exit). At the exit ramp turn right, proceed to the 1st traffic light (a few miles) and right on Fairground Rd. (route 661). Continue thru stop sign & RR tracks (approx 4 miles). Turn left on route 1018 (Bowling View Road) and travel 1/4 mile. Club is on the right. Bowling Green Country Club is approximately 30 min from Manassas. <http://home.att.net/~edwillard/#clubdances>. Info. call Gail King: 540-635-2353.

Cherry Hill, Fr. the Capital Beltway, take Exit 25 (US Route 1 South). Take first right onto Cherry Hill Road and go 1 mile to Cherry Hill Park and Camp Grounds. Entrance on the left. Follow entrance road to back of the park, make a right turn at the 3rd STOP sign. Center is on left just past swimming pool. Parking is free. <http://www.dance-info.com/>

Dance Factory, 954 Monroe St, Arlington, VA. From 495, I 66 East, take N. Fairfax Dr. Exit, left on Monroe, the studio is on the corner across from Virginia Square Metro. 703/528-9770. <http://www.nvcwda.com/malinda.htm>.

Elan DanceSport Center, 8442-A Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA. Beltway exit 50A-B for Arlington Blvd/US-50 W toward Fairfax. Follow signs for US-29/Merrifield/VA-650 N/Gallows Rd and merge onto Gallows Rd/VA-650. Turn left at Lee Hwy/US-29/VA-237. Merrifield Post Office is on the left. Dance studio is on the right, just past Prosperity Ave. 703-289-3070. www.elandancesport.com

Nokesville Firehall, 28 South to left on Fitzwater. Left on Marsteller. Firehall on left. For info: http://users.adelphia.net/~rgsmith46/ATD_home.html

Our Lady of Good Counsel, - 8601 Wolftrap Rd., Vienna. **1)** From the Capital Beltway take exit number 46a, Route 123 South, Tysons Corner. Traveling south on Route 123 after you have passed the fourth light, Courthouse Road, you will travel approximately .8 of a mile before seeing the Emmaus Church of Christ on your right. Make the next left onto Niblick Drive. Continue to the end of Niblick Drive to the parish property. We dance either in the DeSales Room or the Counsel Room. The DeSales Room is in the main church, to the left as you enter the parking lot. The Counsel Room is in the school, farther up on the right. **2)** Traveling North on Route 123 (Maple Avenue) through the Town of Vienna from Fairfax or Oakton, you will come to a traffic light with Follin Lane on your right and the entrance to the Westwood Country Club on your left. Continue for 2 blocks and make a right onto Niblick Drive. Continue to the end of Niblick Drive to the parish property. We dance either in the DeSales Room or the Counsel Room. The DeSales Room is in the main church, to the left as you enter the parking lot. The Counsel Room is in the school, farther up on the right.

Reston Community Center, Fr. W. on Dulles Toll Rd, take Reston Parkway Exit, turn left on Reston Parkway, go to 2nd traffic signal and turn left on Sunrise Valley Drive, go to 1st traffic light and turn right on Colts Neck Road, go 1/4 mile and turn left into Hunters Woods Shopping Center. Community Center is in courtyard behind shopping center. 703-476-4500.

SMCWDA Brandywine Firehouse, From Beltway (I-95), take Exit 7/Route 5 South to 2nd light, turn left onto Brandywine Road and continue for about 2 miles to the Firehouse on the right. <http://www.smart.net/~bobc/smcwda.htm>

Vienna American Legion, 330 Center St. N., Vienna, VA. Upstairs Ballroom. From DC: Take 66 to exit 62, Nutley St. Drive North to Rte. 123. Turn right, drive 3/4 mile to Center St. N. (at Starbuck's). Turn left onto Center St., cross Church St. and AyrHill Ave. Turn left into the American Legion just past the hidden entrance sign. Continue around building to right to upper parking lot. For more info and alternate directions: Go to <http://www.jimandpeggy.com>. Click on link for PSDC.

Country Steppers Report

by Luella Montgomery

Hello, I'm Luella Montgomery, the new Steppers rep for 2007-2008. In the mid-1980's I began country-western dancing by taking classes from Bill Markland at Western Outfitters in Springfield and later joining the Association. I've enjoyed dancing with the Country Steppers since 1995 and have previously served as the Country Steppers representative on the Board.

The Country Steppers are looking forward to another busy summer. We started with a festive performance at the Celebrate Fairfax Fair in early June. This annual event, which we have done for a number of years, always draws a good crowd. Our line dance medley and our two-step routine were well received. The Steppers also are scheduled to perform at the 4-H Fair and the Arlington County Fair in August. County fairs give the Steppers an excellent opportunity to advertise country-western dancing to a more diverse audience. In May we performed for a very appreciative audience at the Fairfax Retirement Center at Fort Belvoir. After learning that they were having a country-western dance in June, the Steppers volunteered to go back again to encourage them to dance.

The Country Steppers are always looking for new members with a basic knowledge of two-step, waltz, swing, and cha cha; singles or couples. Anyone wishing to join the team should contact any member of the Country Steppers, call the NVCWDA Hotline (703) 860-4941, or email steppers@nvcwda.com.

Upcoming Stepper Performances

Sat., July 28: VA Medical Center, Washington, DC 2-3 p.m.

Sat., Aug. 4: 4-H Fair, Frying Pan Park, Chantilly, VA, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. (joint show with the Bull Run Cloggers)

Sat., Aug. 18: Arlington County Fair, Thomas Jefferson Community Center, Arlington, VA 2-2:45 p.m.

Tips for Dancing on a Slow Dance Floor

by Kerie Hitt

After having to dance on the sticky floor at OLGFC on June 2, I remembered an article we ran last year describing information I'd seen at the GottaDance! web site (www.gottadance.org). The hints titled "How to Dance on a Bad Dance Floor (Without Killing Yourself, Your Knees, or Anyone Else)" are worth reading. They have a section on strategies to deal with "slow" floors, which are floors that are sticky or rough. That certainly describes the conditions we encountered at OLGFC. We cannot reproduce the hints in full here because the GottaDance! web pages are copyrighted. The main recommendations from GottaDance! are to change your shoes to your most slippery pair, put something slick (such as a name tag, moleskin, or duct tape) on the bottom of your shoes, and change the way you dance so you don't twist and stress your knees. Try to modify your dance style to avoid injuring yourself (for example, pick up your feet and avoid spinning) and make the most of it. Regardless of the state of the floor at OLGFC, remember that we are guests there, and we are not supposed to put anything on the floor.

In Memoriam

Paul Logan passed away in early May after a brief battle with cancer. He and his wife Candy used to be members of NVCWDA, and both were part of the Country Steppers at one time. Candy was NVCWDA president from 1995-1997. Her address is 14493 Tim Rhoden Rd, Glen St. Mary, FL 32040, and her email address is cherokyncloud@qisfl.net. Donations in Paul's name can be made to: Community Hospice Foundation, 4414 Sunbeam Rd, Suite 1010, Jacksonville, FL 32257 or St. Vincent's Foundation, PO Box 41564, Jacksonville, FL 32202.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL/CHANGE FORM

NORTHERN VIRGINIA COUNTRY-WESTERN DANCE ASSOCIATION

PO Box 384

Merrifield, VA 22116-0384



Individual Members ONLY

Name: _____ NEW ADDRESS
Check here

Address: _____ Apt. _____

City _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Birthday: Month _____ Day _____ **Must be 18 Years of Age**

Phone: Home (____) _____ Work (____) _____

Email _____ Check here to be on
 Email Broadcast

Membership Category

New _____ 1 year - \$18.00
_____ 2 year - \$30.00

Renewal _____ 1 year - \$18.00
_____ 2 year - \$30.00

Membership # _____
Make check payable to NVCWDA
Cash Check # _____

Please check your preferences on the following questions:

Do you wish to have your name and phone number published in the Membership Directory? **Yes__ No__**

Would you be willing to help with some of the activities during the year? **Yes__ No__**

Do you want to receive a NVCWDA Newsletter? **Yes__ No__**

Would you like your birthday listed in the Newsletter on your birthday month? **Yes__ No__**

Membership Drive Sponsor _____ Today's Date _____

Perspective from a Fledgling Board Member

by Donna Dennis

I want to encourage the Association's newcomers to consider volunteering for the vacant Board of Directors positions. When I volunteered to become the Association's treasurer, I had been attending dances for only several months and had been an Association member for just a short time. I was a little apprehensive about joining the Board. I didn't know any of the directors or any of the long term Association members. At the dances, I hung out with people I knew from my dance class, who also were newcomers to the Association. However, I enjoyed the dances and wanted to keep dancing. So, I took a deep breath and volunteered. I have never regretted it. The existing board members have been very supportive—the Board is not an "insider clique." It consists of people who like dancing and who are willing to spend time and effort to put together enjoyable dances. (Good dances don't just happen. People make them happen.) Filling the vacant Board of Directors positions is important for continuing the Association dances that we all enjoy. The NVCWDA board wants you!

George Morse Elected to Life Membership

by Kerie Hitt

It's official! George Morse is our newest Life Member. Voting closed on April 30, and the Board approved the results of the election at our Board meeting in May. A Life Member is someone who has given extraordinary service to NVCWDA. George has been a member of NVCWDA since 1987 and has provided our web site for many years. He recently retired from his latest job, which was working for Homeland Security. His house in Chantilly is on the market, and he and his wife Faye are planning on moving out of the area one of these days. He has been biding his time at the beach in North Carolina, waiting for his house to sell. With George's election, we now have a dozen life members.

We plan to honor George at a dance sometime this fall.



Congratulations to Members

Playwright **Anthony (Tony) Gallo** premiered his latest work, "Lincoln and God," a two-act play, which was staged at the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church on June 22-24.

Bruce Wright was honored by Celebrate Fairfax! in recognition of outstanding service to the community. Bruce advocates for bicyclists and pedestrians and has served on numerous transportation and land use committees for the Hunter Mill District. He was one of 20 people to receive a 2007 Lord and Lady Fairfax award.

Membership Directory

We plan to publish a NVCWDA membership directory. You must "opt in" for us to include your information in the directory. Please let us know whether you want to be included by checking the sheet at the entry desk at a dance or by contacting Tim Sizer (membership@nvcwda.org).

NORTHERN VIRGINIA COUNTRY-WESTERN DANCE ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 384

MERRIFIELD, VA 22116-0384

Address Service Requested

NVCWDA HOTLINE

703-860-4941

NVCWDA WEBSITE ADDRESS

www.nvcwda.com

NVCWDA EMAIL ADDRESS

info@nvcwda.org