



# Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association **NEWSLETTER**

CELEBRATING THIRTY YEARS OF TWO-STEPPING  
**30<sup>th</sup>**  
Anniversary  
1986  2016

Vol. XXX, No. 3

Official Publication

First Quarter 2016

## President's Report

by Rick Humbert

Can 2016 really be here already? I hope everyone had a joyous holiday season and are raring to make 2016 another fun dancing year.

I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to everyone for showing flexibility as far as dances went since September. The remodeling at the Linconia Senior Center continues (I have not heard a definite reopening date as of this writing). Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church had occasions where it was either at a later time, or on a couple of occasions, not available at all. This allowed the Association to dance at a new venue, and revisit a venue where dances were held in 2013. From reports I heard, the October dance at the Salvation Army in Fairfax was "a hit" amongst participants. (I had prior commitments that evening and was unable to attend.) Hopefully, NVCWDA will return there in the future. November's dance at Hollin Hall in Alexandria went well. The dance floor was greatly improved from what it was when NVCWDA was there in September 2013. Yes, the poles were still present. However, NVCWDA has navigated other venues with poles in the middle of the dance floor.

For the third consecutive year, NVCWDA rang in the New Year with a dance at the Church of the Good Shepherd in the Burke area. A good crowd was in attendance, and a good time was had by all. Very special thanks go out to Karen Johnson for coordinating the decorations and to Linda Buckle for coordinating the food.

Plans are currently in the works for NVCWDA's annual Benefit Dance, which is tentatively scheduled for April 16, 2016. More details on the dance will be forthcoming on the website, as well as in the next Newsletter.



## Demonstration Dance Group Update

Your help and participation is needed! Please see article on page three for more information! There will be a sign-up sheet at the front table for those who wish to express their interest in participating.

While the weather this late fall and early winter has been quite balmy, there is a possibility of the weather turning inclement to a point where Fairfax County Schools will be cancelling their events. If that is the case, then NVCWDA must cancel their dances as well.

That is all for this quarter. I hope the winter season goes by fast, and we'll get into spring. Everybody get out and dance as often as you are able.



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## 2015-2016 NVCWDA Board of Directors

### OFFICERS

President	Rick Humbert
Vice President	Wayne Herndon
Secretary	Nancy Vogelmann
Treasurer	Bill Wong

### DIRECTORS

Dance	Marty Johnson
Communications	Lydia Vitale
Membership	Shela Schultz
Planning	Vacant
Special Events	Vacant
At Large	Diane Foster
Steppers	Vinny Mullally
Past President	Vacant

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

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## Treasurer's Report

by Bill Wong

Lincolnia Senior Center renovation is running late. Their January-March activities remain scheduled at alternate sites.

In addition to many toys, the Toys For Tots dance collected \$158.

Commercial general liability insurance has been moved to another agent.

The association started the fiscal year with \$10,455.40 on May 31, 2015 and currently has a balance of \$10,801.64 as of December 8, 2015. ASCAP dues are coming up in January. Below is the quarterly report:

CATEGORY	June 2014 Qtr	Sept 2014 Qtr	Dec 2014 Qtr	March 2015 Qtr	FYE 5/31/2015 Total	June 2015 Qtr	Sept 2015 Qtr
<b>INCOME</b>							
Admissions	2775.00	3254.00	2618.00	3081.00	11728.00	2147.00	2711.00
Donations Payable to Others	0.00	0.00	100.00	1510.00	1610.00	0.00	0.00
Donations Received	326.00	260.00	463.00	1040.00	2089.00	670.00	422.00
Interest Inc	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.25	0.97	0.23	0.21
Membership Dues	396.00	288.00	324.00	720.00	1728.00	486.00	558.00
TOTAL INCOME	3497.24	3802.24	3505.24	6351.25	17155.97	3303.23	3691.21
<b>EXPENSES</b>							
Bank charge	0.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
DJ (1099 payee)	1800.00	1800.00	1600.00	1800.00	7000.00	1500.00	1800.00
Donations to Others	300.00	300.00	1400.00	3086.00	5086.00	300.00	150.00
Dues, Fees, Licenses	0.00	35.00	758.00	130.00	923.00	0.00	55.00
Insurance	0.00	496.03	0.00	0.00	496.03	0.00	0.00
Phone	209.42	101.75	152.41	151.08	614.66	149.28	162.98
Space Rental	850.00	229.00	0.00	1693.00	2772.00	2281.00	250.00
Supplies	0.00	22.46	53.06	0.00	75.52	0.00	0.00
Website	0.00	0.00	156.38	0.00	156.38	0.00	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	3159.42	2994.24	4119.85	6860.08	17133.59	4230.28	2417.98
OVERALL TOTAL	337.82	808.00	-614.61	-508.83	22.38	-927.05	1273.23

**Lessons at NVCWDA Dances in 2015** - Step sheets for most of these dances are available on our [website](#), under the "DANCE INFO" tab. (The most recent lessons are listed first in the left column)

Baby Doll Waltz LD	So Wake Me Up LD
Zatchu LD	The Shadow couples
The Sway	Easy Come Easy Go LD
Funky Cha Cha LD	Chiquita couples
Barn Dance Mixer	Lover Please Come Back
Skip the Line LD	Shotgun Jenny LD
Two Step couples (11/21)	Homegrown LD
The Bomp LD	Kokomo LD
Two Step couples (11/07)	El Paso Moves
1,2 & Then ? Waltz couples	Pick Me Up LD
All About That Bass LD	Two Step LD
Foot Boogie LD	Blue Night Cha couples
Cha Cha	Beach Boogie LD
Tell the World LD	Do You Wanna Dance LD
Six Pack Summer couples	American Kids LD
Make Me Wanna LD	Tennessee Waltz Surprise

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## Dance Director's Report

by Marty Johnson

Here we go dancing into 2016! Karen and I have been very busy planning another year's worth of fun and lively dances! DJs have been lined up, and I am pleased to say that Kathy Fanelli, Kevin Handy, and Bernie and Lydia Vitale will be back with us. Rich Mahan, who was the DJ for the first time at our December 5th dance, will be with us on a regular basis this year. Welcome, Rich!

As you may have heard, Don Barger will be leaving us as he retires

and heads south! He will be the DJ one more time on February 6th and will be teaching one of his favorite line dances, Slappin' Leather. He will also be teaching alternate El Paso moves for the couples. So join us that night as we say farewell to Don!

Instructors are also being lined up. We have been re-teaching old dances lately and will do so through the February 6th dance. After that, we hope to have some interesting new dances to show you. If there is a dance you have seen or heard of, either new or old, that you would like us to teach, let me know, and I will see if I can add it to the line-up.

As you will read elsewhere in this newsletter, efforts are being made to revitalize the Association's dance demonstration group. Please read about the details and seriously consider becoming part of the team.

Last but not least, please remember the rules of proper dance etiquette while on the dance floor. Sometimes the floor gets crowded with multiple types of dances going on. Be aware of others around you. If in doubt about the rules, they are always on display at the sign-in desk. Remember to be polite, be safe, and have fun. See you on the dance floor!

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## Demonstration Dance Group Update

by Karen Johnson

You most likely know that the Steppers, the Association's demonstration dance group for the last 28 years, has ceased performing for the time being. It became harder and harder for the team to recruit new members. In November, it reached the point where there were not enough members to even perform.

As you may also know, one of the purposes of the NVCWDA as set forth in its Constitution is "to develop and provide for a Demonstration Dance Group to portray Country-Western Dance." In light of the current Steppers situation, the Board of Directors has had to consider options regarding what to do.

At its December 5th Board meeting, it was decided that an attempt would be made to revitalize and revamp the demonstration group. As a result, an effort is under way to identify Association members who would be interested in possibly being part of a new, much different demonstration group.

Although there are many details to be worked out, the plan at the moment is to have a group that would be made up of three sections. There would be line dancers, couples dancers, and performance dancers (like the original Steppers). Initially, performances would be kept to no more than half a dozen a year, and members would participate as they are available.

The line dancers and couples dancers would perform dances that we do regularly at the Association dances. This would keep the need for practices to a minimum. The performance dancers would be doing choreographed routines, which obviously would require more formal practice sessions.

Line and couples dancers would wear black jeans/slacks/skirts and Association t-shirts. Performance dancers would wear formal country-western attire as the Steppers have always done.

There will be a sign-up sheet at the front table for the next couple of dances to see how many members are seriously interested in possibly being part of the group.

If enough interest is shown, an organizational meeting will be held to see if a realistic plan can be formulated and to determine how many members would actually commit to joining and helping in some way to organize and/or coordinate. No one has yet indicated a willingness to lead the group, but an overall leader or co-leaders (perhaps one for each section) would be essential.

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*"There will be a sign-up sheet  
at the front table..."*

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If it does not appear that there is sufficient interest to even go forward with an organizational meeting, the whole idea will most likely be dropped. At that point, the Board would most likely consider amending the Constitution to remove the requirement for the demonstration group.

People have enjoyed the Steppers for many years, and it would be a shame for the Association not to have a demonstration dance group. As a member, you know how much fun it is to get out there and dance and how good it is for you physically and mentally. Wouldn't you like to be able to share all that with others? Please consider at least signing the interest sheet and helping to figure out how we can make this work.



### NVCWDA

#### Inclement Weather Policy



Dances are cancelled whenever Saturday activities in the Fairfax County Public Schools are cancelled. The news media will announce any school closing. If we find out early enough, we will put the information on our website and hotline. You can also check for emergency announcements on the Fairfax County Public Schools website at: <http://www.fcps.edu/news/emerg.shtml>



## Summary of Board Meetings

by Nancy Vogelmann

**Oct 17** - The Salvation Army location dance resulted in four new memberships and several renewals. Many good comments were received from attendees regarding this location. Unfortunately, the cost of Salvation Army (SA) (as well as all several other venues) is prohibitive except as an occasional dance.

The Dance Director has been contacting all the DJs for contract renewals. Possible contract revisions were discussed. There will be no new lessons taught in December and January, just reviews. A list of dances for possible review will be placed on tables at upcoming dances – input will be collected and used to make review selections.

The Membership Director presented ideas for prize incentives at future dances for those who bring a friend to the dance, hoping to increase membership.

The Steppers Representative confirmed that the final dance of Steppers team was Nov. 7. A discussion was held for meeting the Constitution's requirement that there be a demonstration dance group. Input from the dancers will be gathered.

**Dec. 5** - The Treasurer reported that Lincolnia Senior Center's renovations were running late, and that their January-March activities are still scheduled at other sites. This was not encouraging due to the much higher expense of holding

dances at any of the other usual locations.

The Dance Director reported that the DJs who have confirmed for 2016 are: Bernie Vitale, Kevin Handy, Kathy Fanelli, and Richard Mahan. Unfortunately we will be losing Don Barger who is moving out of the area.

The Steppers Representative confirmed that the final Steppers performance was Nov. 7. Much discussion took place regarding the need for a replacement demonstration group to meet the requirements of NVCWDA's by-laws. There will be a sign-up sheet posted for those interested in participating. Someone is needed to organize the performances which would occur 4-6 times per year. Participants would wear an NVCWDA T-shirt. A possible first performance would be the NVCWDA Benefit Dance in April.

The Treasurer secured commercial liability insurance which required locating a new agent. Dance date for January 16, 2016 was set for AUUC. There will be no dance January 2nd. Venues Hollin Hall and AUUC were suggested for February and March – see the NVCWDA website for the final schedule.

Benefit dance is planned for April, possibly with a performance by Mal and Linda Zerden.

Discussion was held about cancelling dances on the weekends of July 4th and Labor Day in view of possible small turnout and uncertainty of when Lincolnia Senior Center will be available again. It was agreed that the final decision will not be made until February or March.

## Resolutions

by Rick Humbert

Disclaimer: This is only my personal opinion of how I see the Association, and how I feel that NVCWDA can even be better.

With the New Year upon us, I'm sure that all of us have made New Year's resolutions. After some thought, I came up with a few New Year's resolutions for NVCWDA. While I feel things have been fine during my 10-plus years in NVCWDA, with being President for the past two and a half years, I also think we as an Association can improve and become even better.

First, if you have a great time and enjoy the dances, have you considered asking a friend, neighbor or coworker to one of the dances? The more people we have at the dances, the merrier.

Second, please consider "stepping out of the box," and either meet somebody new, or reacquaint yourselves with people you don't normally spend time with at the dances. There is nothing wrong with sitting with your regular friends, just that there are more people at the dances than just those at

your table, and who knows, you may make a new friend. (I feel there's been gradual improvement in this, but it can be even better.)

Finally, and I feel most important, is to help out YOUR Association. There are many opportunities to do this, and one does not have to serve on the Board, or even be a member to help make a difference. You can come in early and help set up tables and chairs, as well as take them down at the end of the dance. (What if you had to stand for 3-4 hours?) Those who are not Board members can volunteer to serve on the Nominating Committee. One can also volunteer to help out, or even be in charge of special dances, such as April's Benefit Dance. (I hosted the Halloween Dance for several

years after I left the Board.) There is plenty of low-hanging fruit out there.

Please remember, this is YOUR Association. The more we continue to improve ourselves (and the Association), the better all will be.



## Newsletter Deadline

**March 15 for articles, reports, ads and news items**

**Email to: [communications@nvcwda.org](mailto:communications@nvcwda.org)**

Send Microsoft Word or Text Files. Ads may also be sent as press-ready pdf files (if able, make them high resolution with fonts embedded)

Send photos separately as tif, eps, jpeg, or bitmap files (high resolution)

# Welcome New Members

Iris Ryan	Carol Brown	Nancy Lake
Ed Ryan	Danielle Smedley	Angel Whisenant
Sandra Wyatt	Jenny Thomas	Thea Kelleher

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

### January Birthdays

01/04 Ruth Swart  
01/05 Dave Shrader  
01/16 Ann West  
01/16 Susan Scott  
01/19 Ann Marlin  
01/21 Patricia Kelley  
01/27 William Wong  
01/30 Pat McNees

### February Birthdays

02/14 Rosa Marino  
02/16 Beth Di Silvio  
02/18 Robert Smith  
02/22 Beverly Card  
02/27 Bill Markland

### March Birthdays

03/17 Steve Martin  
03/22 Linda Zerden  
03/29 Shirley Rayner



### Newsletter Sections on Website

[NVCWDA Dance Schedule](#)  
[Dance Event Calendar](#)  
[Looking for Lessons?](#)  
[How Do I Get There?](#)

### STORES

#### Sal's Shoe Repairing

703/941-9864  
7312 Little River Tpke.  
Annandale, VA 22003

\*10% discount with  
NVCWDA membership card

#### W. J. Colt & Company

703/971-7555  
2832 Dorr Ave. #B  
Fairfax, VA 22031

\*20% discount on boots with  
NVCWDA membership card

\*Call ahead to make sure discount is still in effect.

**NVCWDA HOTLINE**  
703-860-4941

**NVCWDA WEBSITE ADDRESS**  
[www.nvcwda.org](http://www.nvcwda.org)

**NVCWDA EMAIL ADDRESS**  
[info@nvcwda.org](mailto:info@nvcwda.org)



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with your  
smartphone  
to open our  
website.



06/2012

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL/CHANGE FORM

Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association

P.O. 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: 1st \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Category

New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 year . . . \$18.00

\_\_\_\_\_ 2 years . . \$36.00

Membership # \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to NVCWDA

Cash ☐ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Your email address will be used only for official NVCWDA notifications, including membership renewals and announcements.

### Please check your preferences on the following questions:

Would you be willing to help with some of our activities during the year? . . . . . Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like your birthday listed in our newsletter on your birthday month? . . . . . Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Today's date \_\_\_\_\_