

Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association

NEWSLETTER



1986



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Second Quarter 2012

President's Report

by Bo Marlin

Email: president@nvcwda.org

Believe it or not, we've made it through another winter and spring is upon us once again. Fortunately, we've been blessed with a mild winter (and only had one dance cancelled due to inclement weather) so we're not complaining. As I write this, the weather is beginning to turn warmer, we've switched to Daylight Saving Time, the cherry trees in and around the greater Washington DC area are blooming, and the outdoor activities are on the rise.

A couple of other sure signs of the spring and summer seasons in our NVCWDA world are our annual Benefit Dance and the election of our Board of Directors. This year our NVCWDA Benefit Dance will be held on April 21, so please mark your calendars and plan to attend. Once again, all proceeds from the dance will be given to Fisher House Foundation to support the Fisher Houses in the local area. The Fisher House program is a unique private-public partnership that supports America's military in their time of need. Because members of the military and their families are stationed worldwide and must often travel great distances for specialized medical care, Fisher House Foundation donates "comfort homes" built on the grounds of major military and VA medical centers. These homes enable family members to be close to a loved one at the most stressful times—during the hospitalization for an unexpected illness, disease, or injury—at no charge. There are eight Fisher Houses in our local area, and another under construction at Fort Belvoir.

Mark your calendar for these special events:

April 21 Benefit Dance May 5 **Election of Officers** June 2 Installation of Officers

Mark your calendars!

Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association Benefit Dance for Fisher House QUILT RAFFLE!

April 21, 2012 • 7:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Please bring a potluck dish to share. Be ready to participate in the Silent Auction.

SILENT AUCTION!

Luther Jackson Middle School 3020 Gallows Road • Falls Church, VA DANCE DEMOS!

Tickets will be \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. Purchase tickets at regular NVCWDA dances. Make checks payable to NVCWDA.

All proceeds will go to the Fisher House Foundation, which is a not-for-profit organization providing temporary housing to families of patients receiving care at military hospitals.

All Fisher House Foundation donations are used to reimburse the individual Fisher Houses operated by the Army, Navy, and Air Force. As in the past, we'll be having dance demonstrations, a silent auction for assorted treasures, and a drawing for a Country-Western quilt. The theme for this year's Benefit Dance will be a "Country Hoedown" with hot dogs, potato salad, and picnic fare. Admission will be \$15 per person in advance and \$20 at the door with no special passes that evening. So please pass the word and plan to join us for a fun-filled night of dancing and fundraising for a very worthy cause.

As I've been mentioning at a number of dances now, despite some agreements among current board members to change positions, we're still looking for a few new -continued on page 8

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2011-2012 NVCWDA Board of Directors

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Treasurer Donna Dennis

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Dance Kathy Fanelli

Communications Eric Vondra

Membership Karen Johnson

Planning Susan Scott

Special Events Patty Orndorff

At Large Open

Steppers Richard Chiu

Past President Charlie Pierce

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 quarterly 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. Email prepaid advertising material (high resolution pdf if available) to communications@nvcwda. org. Mail check to NVCWDA, P.O. Box 384, Merrifield, VA 22116-0384.

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Communications Report

by Eric Vondra

Email: communications@nvcwda.org

I miss winter already. It was so warm! Will this be a long, hot summer? If so, we hope we'll get the air conditioning at Luther Jackson Middle School cranking like we had it last summer. That's just one of the many things your Board has to worry about to make our dances successful and enjoyable. It's great to see the membership at a high level, with people renewing and lots of new faces. So we must be doing something right!

Olga and I are very thankful for the great instructors we've had at recent dances. You know, we may even learn to do a decent Two-Step one of these days. I see a lot of good dancers on the floor, and I'll bet some of you would secretly like to be instructors. You could sign up to teach one dance and see how you like it. Maybe you'll become one of our regulars. See Kathy Fanelli, our Dance Director, if you're interested.

With plans for vacations being made, don't forget the first and third Saturdays of each month, when we have our dances. You don't have to drive far, you have friends there, and you'll come away with a smile on your face. Luther Jackson is our regular venue now, and it's reasonably close for the majority of our dance attendees. With the high price of gas, we may end up with some very well-attended dances this summer. If you're one of our members who lives out of the area, consider attending a dance if you do pass through NoVA. We'd love to see you.

It would be nice to have a Director-at-Large again to coordinate refreshments and complete the Board. Think about that—or even volunteering to be one of the Association's officers if you're so inclined. I am impressed with the dedication of my fellow Board members to the Association, but some of them have been serving a long time, and sure could use a break. We really have asked a lot from them, and it would be great for some of them to be able to be just dancers again. Their dedication shows how much they value the Association, and I'm sure the feeling is mutual.

Membership Update

by Karen Johnson

Email: membership@nvcwda.org

Wow! The membership number is 173 as of the writing of this article, and all but three of those are up-to-date on their dues! That is the best the numbers have been since Marty and I took over membership several years ago. We had a whopping nine new members join in January and February. Thanks Paula and Irshad Ali for bringing in a lot of those new

members!

It looks like this might be my last membership update. The current Board's term ends in May, and we have several positions that need to be filled. As you will see in the Nominating Committee report, we may have a few new Board members and the repositioning of a couple of the old Board members, including me. So in the next issue, you may have a membership update from a new Membership Director and a report from me as a different Board member. Until then, keep on dancing!

Looking for Lessons?

Check out Fairfax County ParkTakes (www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes. htm) for lessons. Several are taught by NVCWDA members. Page 4 has information about classes in the area. Many of the other dance places listed in the newsletter offer lessons. Search for lessons on the dance web pages shown on the NVCWDA web site (www.nvcwda.org/links.html). Sign up for DC's Community Dance News, the weekly electronic newsletter from Dave Moldover (dave@danceinfo.com)

Newsletter Deadline

June 10 for articles, reports, ads and news items

Email to: 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)

Great Fun at the Tim Gillis Fall Dance Weekend

by Susan Scott and Steve Kinnett

Steve and I attended a weekend of dancing at the Honor's Haven Resort and Spa in Ellenville, Catskills Mountains, New York from November 11 through 13, 2011. I had been to a "Tim Gillis Weekend" in the fall of 2007 with one of my dance team partners and had memories of a fabulous experience.

I called Tim Gillis and registered. He couldn't have been more pleasant, helpful, and down to earth. He told me that attendance is increasing every year. He was expecting 300 participants at this event. I guess the recession hasn't had a negative impact. Due to our traveling distance to the Catskills, (6 hours from Woodbridge, Virginia), we took his recommendation and arrived on Thursday instead of Friday. Many participants come shorter distances and usually arrive Friday morning. An additional nominal fee included our Thursday night dinner, dance lessons, welcome dance, hotel stay, Friday morning breakfast buffet, and early bird dance lessons. He even gave me directions for a scenic route to the Catskills.

When we arrived at the Honor's Haven Resort and Spa, I was totally taken by all of the renovations since I had last visited in 2007. It didn't look the same at all. The hotel rooms were modern with all the amenities. The setting for the resort is breathtaking in itself. Steve and I even took a suggested walk to the waterfalls near the resort on Saturday when we took a break from the dance lessons.

All the meals we had were excellent. The best I can describe this whole experience is that it's like having a cruise on land. There was even midnight "make your own sundaes." The table to which we were assigned had warm, fun folks and a beautiful panoramic view overlooking a pond and golf course. We discovered that many participants return each year and some have developed long term friendships, which makes this a reunion for them.

Now about the dancing. The weekend includes 70-plus hours of dance instruction. There are excellent international



At the far end of a large polished floor, the Tim Gillis Band makes preparations for the dance.

choreographer instructors. From Virginia, Mal and Linda Zerden taught couples dances. They are world champion competition dancers. The majority of participants are line dancers. If you plan to take couples

dance lessons, I suggest you "bring your own sand to the beach". Steve and I learned some new patterns in Cha Cha, Two Step, East Coast and West Coast Swing, plus new couples specialty dances. We focused on the couples dances which had four to six couples per lesson.

The price for the entire weekend included a welcome party with a two hour open bar and a full hors d'oeuvres buffet, use of all Honor's Haven Resort and Spa facilities, music by the Tim Gillis band, Zumba class, dancing nightly at several locations, a Karaoke Party, and much more.

Steve and I felt that the "Tim Gillis Weekend" was an excellent value with top level instructors. We will definitely be returning.

For more information, please view the web site www. timgillisdanceweekends.com.



Line dancers fill the dance floor at the Tim Gillis Weekend.

NVCWDA April-June 2012 Dance Schedule

Free dance lessons 7:30–8:30 p.m. Open dancing 8:30–11:00 p.m. Informal dance reviews 7:00 p.m.

Admission: Members \$10 / Non-members \$12. Children under 18, with paying adult: \$5. PSDC Members: \$10. (Regular admission rates do not apply to Benefit and New Year's Eve Dances.)

| Date | Event | Location | DJ | |
|----------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------|--|
| April 7 | | Luther Jackson MS | BJ Brown | |
| April 21 | Benefit Dance | Luther Jackson MS | Kevin Handy | |
| May 5 | Election Dance | Luther Jackson MS | Bernie Vitale | |
| May 19 | | Luther Jackson MS | Kathy Fanelli | |
| June 2 | Installation Dance | Luther Jackson MS | BJ Brown | |
| June 16 | | Luther Jackson MS | Bernie Vitale | |

Dance lessons and instructors will be announced on the hotline, website, and Facebook about two weeks before the dance. Lessons from 7:30–8:30 usually will include a line dance and a couples dance. Informal reviews at 7:00 will occur only when a review instructor is available and will not be done to music. Monitor hotline, website, and FB for last minute changes to schedule.

Line Dances taught recently at NVCWDA dances:

Stealing the Best (3/17/12) Irish Stew (3/17/12) Forever Green (3/3/12) Red Solo Cup (2/18/12) Little Red Book (2/4/12) 5, 6, 7, 8 (12/17/11) Baby Doll Waltz (12/3/11) Foot Boogie (11/19/11) Honey Bee (11/5/11)

Down & Dirty (10/15/11)
Fallsview Rock (10/1/11)
Hooked on Country (9/17/11)
Matador (9/17/11)
True Blue (9/3/11)
Knee Deep (8/20/11)
The Gilley (8/6/11)
I'm Alive (7/16/11)

Couples Specialty Dances taught recently at NVCWDA dances:

The Wanderer (3/3/12)
Chocolate City Hustle (2/18/12)
Chiquita (12/17/11)
The Shadow (12/3/11)
Sidekick (11/5/11)
Wooden Nickel (10/1/11)
Cotton-Eyed Joe (9/17/11)
Schottische (9/17/11)
The Sway (9/3/11)

McGraw Stroll (8/20/11) The Shadow (8/6/11) Tango with the Sheriff (7/16/11) Santa Fe Stroll (7/2/11) The Wanderer (6/18/11) Six Pack Summer (5/21/11) Smokey Places (4/16/11) Butterfly Waltz (3/5/11)

Dance Schedule

NVCWDA Dances Free Dance Lessons

7:00 p.m. Review if instructor available 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. Lessons Open dancing 8:30 - 11:00 p.m.



April 2012

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--------|---|----------------------------------|--------------------------|--|---|
| Reston Dance Reston Comm. Cntr. | 2 | Colvin Run Dance Ed and Gail | Dawn & Dean Cherry Hill | Gail Smith Nokesville | PSDC Vienna 6 Am. Legion Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita | 7 NVCWDA Luther Jackson MS |
| Stafford Easter American Sunday Legion | 9 | LO Colvin Run Dance Ed and Gail | Dawn & Dean Cherry Hill | Gail Smith Nokesville | PSDC Vienna 13 Am. Legion Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita | Swingin' Country at the Dance Factory |
| 15 | 16 | L17 Colvin Run Dance Ed and Gail | Dawn & Dean Cherry Hill | Gail Smith Nokesville | PSDC Vienna 20 Am. Legion Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita | NVCWDA 21 Luther Jackson MS Benefit Dance |
| Stafford American Legion | 23 | Colvin Run Dance Ed and Gail | 25 Dawn & Dean Cherry Hill | Gail Smith Nokesville | PSDC Vienna 27 Am. Legion Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita | 28 |
| 29 | | D Lessons by Eileen Scott: Monday night line dance classes at Springfield American Legion Post 176, Amhearst Avenue, Springfield, VA from 7:45 - 9:15 p.m. each Monday except holidays. Fairfax County classes are held Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. and an intermediate class at 8:00 p.m. These classes require registration with the Fairfax County Park Authority. Classes for the Spring session are being held at Lane Elementary School starting Mar 27 and will continue for eight weeks. Contact Eileen for more information: escott5678@verizon.net. | | | | |

May 2012

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| | ing: Wednesday nights: essons are from 8 p.m | 1 | 2 | _ 3 | PSDC Vienna 4 Am. Legion | NVCWDA 5 |
| | :00 p.m. 46300 McClellan | Colvin Run Dance Ed and Gail | Dawn & Dean Cherry Hill | Gail Smith Nokesville | Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita | Luther Jackson MS Election Dance |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | | 12 |
| Reston Dance Reston Comm. Cntr. | | Colvin Run Dance Ed and Gail | Dawn & Dean Cherry Hill | Gail Smith Nokesville | Am. Legion Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita | Swingin' Country at the Dance Factory |
| Stafford American 13 | 14 | Valentine's Day 15 | 16 | 1 | 7 PSDC Vienna 18 | 19 |
| Mother's Day | | Colvin Run Dance Ed and Gail | Dawn & Dean Cherry Hill | Gail Smith Nokesville | Am. Legion Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita | NVCWDA Luther Jackson MS |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | | 26 |
| | | Colvin Run Dance Ed and Gail | Dawn & Dean Cherry Hill | Gail Smith Nokesville | Am. Legion Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita | |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | The Corral at Fast Edd | lies in Centreville - Tues, Thu | urs. & Sat. with lessons at |
| Stafford American Legion | MEMORIAL DAY ★★★★★★ | Colvin Run Dance Ed and Gail | Dawn & Dean Cherry Hill | | No cover charge on weekni 1114 Lee Highway, Centreville .fasteddies.com. | |

June 2012

Gail Smith has a Nokesville dance on Thursdays 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. (lessons and open dancing) but it is subject to change.

Email: letsgogigi@gmail.com for information and to receive updates.

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--|---|
| | edule changes can o ce organizers directi | | | | PSDC Vienna 1 Am. Legion Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita | NVCWDA 2 Luther Jackson MS Installation Dance |
| Reston Dance Reston Comm. Cntr. | _4_ | 5 Colvin Run Dance Ed and Gail | 6 Dawn & Dean Cherry Hill | Gail Smith Nokesville | PSDC Vienna 8 Am. Legion Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita | Swingin' Country at the Dance Factory |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | | 16 |
| Stafford American Legion | | Colvin Run Dance Ed and Gail | Dawn & Dean Cherry Hill | Gail Smith Nokesville | Am. Legion Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita | NVCWDA Luther Jackson MS |
| Mappy (17) Father 5 Day (18) | [18] | Colvin Run Dance Ed and Gail | Dawn & Dean Cherry Hill | Gail Smith Nokesville | PSDC Vienna 22 Am. Legion Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita | 23 |
| Stafford American Legion | 25 | 26 Colvin Run Dance Ed and Gail | Dawn & Dean Cherry Hill | Gail Smith Nokesville | PSDC Vienna 29 Am. Legion Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita | 30 |

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 in Sterling, VA Mondays - 7:00-9:00 p.m. - Bernie & Lydia Vitale

Fridays - (Beginners Class) 7:00-8:00 p.m. - Lydia Vitale dancenl@comcast.net or call 703-430-2398

Planning Director Report

by Susan Scott

As we enter our third consecutive month with all dances held at Luther Jackson Middle School, I have noticed that the increased space in the cafeteria has provided opportunities for several different dances to be going on simultaneously. At one dance in March, I observed five different dances all at once! All were in separate groups in various locations on the dance floor.

One of the goals this year set by our Board of Directors is to increase numbers of attendees at our dances by using a consistent location and larger space. The fee for Luther Jackson is higher than we paid at Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church. For this reason, it is critical to maintain our dance attendance to avoid a deficit in funds. I have been impressed to see all of the new faces at our dances.

At our St. Patrick's Day dance, the cafeteria temperature was warm for dancing. I was unable to locate the custodian to turn on the air conditioning. He showed up at the end of the night. In addition to this issue, I have been seeking clarification

on several other points, and will continue to do my best to ensure the best dance environment for the Association.

Invite your friends and family to our dances. It is smoke and alcohol free with lessons and great music and dancing.

Upcoming Stepper Performances

- Sat., Apr. 21 NVCWDA benefit dance, Luther Jackson Middle School, Falls Church, VA, approximately 9 p.m.
- Sun., Apr. 22 Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Washington, DC, 4-8:00 p.m.
- **Sat., Apr. 28** Old Town Hall, Fairfax, VA, 7-9 p.m. (part of the Spotlight on the Arts Program-free dance open to public)
- **Sat., Jun. 9** Celebrate Fairfax Fair, Fairfax, VA, 12 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.
- **Sat., Jun. 30** Locust Shade Park, Jean Smith Memorial Amphitheater, Quantico, VA, 7 p.m.

The "Footloose Bill" in Fairfax County by Kerie Hitt

Fairfax County is considering a zoning amendment that will affect dancing in restaurants and dance halls. I will try to explain what's going on. Apparently the County had a couple of bad experiences with a few places where crowds got out of hand, offended neighbors, and posed a public safety concern. Instead of dealing with a few "bad apples" using fire codes, occupancy limits, or other "non-zoning" approaches, the County drafted zoning restrictions. The zoning would impact many social dancers, the majority of whom are quietly dancing without any problems.

Local dancers objected strenuously to the proposed amendment, particularly to two items. First, the amendment limited the size of dance floors in restaurants to 150 square feet or 1/8 of the total dining area, whichever was smaller. Dancing in such a small space would be almost impossible. Second, the amendment created a separate classification for larger dance halls (public entertainment establishments). Dance halls would need to obtain a license costing more than \$16,000. The restrictions could have essentially wiped out dancing at restaurants that clear a space for dancers a few nights a week and certainly would have discouraged anyone from running a dance hall.

Using social media, the dance community mobilized against the zoning amendment. Some people started calling it the "Footloose Bill," recalling the movie about a small town that banned dancing. People voiced their concerns to the Planning Commission. When the zoning proposal came before the Planning Commission on March 1, the commissioners agreed that the amendment had some major issues. They discussed whether limiting the size of dance floors truly would solve the so-called problems the zoning action was trying to fix. They wondered how/if other communities dealt with similar concerns. In the end, they recommended that the

Board of Supervisors defer action on the ordinance pending further study. The matter was scheduled for a public hearing before the Board of Supervisors on March 6. Many dancers signed up to testify at the public hearing, but the Supervisors deferred the hearing at the last minute to allow further study. They directed the Department of Planning and Zoning to revise the amendment for discussion at the Development Process Committee (chaired by Sup. Frey) meeting on May 15. They also sent the amendment back to the Planning Commission for recommendations in time for the Board to act before the August recess. Supposedly this reevaluation will include outreach to interested parties, such as the travel industry and the public. The Board has the final decision.

Even if the zoning ordinance would not affect NVCWDA dances, if you support local dancing in general, keep an eye on the status of the amendment. A Facebook group called "Save Dancing in Fairfax County" is a primary source of information. (You have to ask to join the group.) We'll post information on our Facebook page as well. Look for a call to action, which could involve sending a letter to the Planning Commission or the Board of Supervisors.



The bold lines in the photo indicate an area of about 150 square feet, which is the maximum dance floor allowed in restaurants by the proposed zoning amendment. County staff estimated that 38 to 50 people could dance on a floor this size! For reference, we crammed about 30 people into the space for this photo.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

April Birthdays

04/02 Sue Maillet 04/03 Diane Foster

04/04 Mike Houchins

04/05 Charles McGuire

04/11 Sandra Graves

04/14 Anthony Gallo

04/16 Linda Harrison-Hall

04/19 Karen Berger

04/30 Judy Sensel

May Birthdays

05/01 Armand Maillet

05/06 Linda Cerisano

05/13 Gary Campbell

05/16 Mary Pryor

05/19 Jack Wallace

05/26 Marjorie Hoffman

June Birthdays

06/01 John Cerisano

06/02 Larry Hall

06/07 Tara Dahbi

06/13 Linda Wallace

06/14 Bruce Wright

06/17 Charlie Kennedy

06/21 Dorothy Garrison

06/22 Charlotte Pierce

06/23 Margaret Lowry

06/30 Daniel Pierce

Welcome New Members!

Colleen Aracich

John Aracich

Bill Jarosz

Donna Jarosz

Ken Kearney

Linda Kearney

Judy Sensel

Donna Wolverton

Charles Wolverton

COUNTRY STORES

The Silver Parrot

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

Sal's Shoe Repairing

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

W. J. Colt & Company

703/971-7555 6690 Springfield Mall Springfield, VA 22150

HOW DO I GET THERE?

Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church, From the Fairfax County Parkway (SR 7100): Take westbound Burke Lake Road (SR645) 0.2 miles to the first left turn onto Lakehaven Lane. The church is located on the right at the intersection of Lakehaven Lane and Lakehaven Court.

From the Beltway and Annandale: Take westbound Braddock Road to Burke Lake Road (SR645) which bears to the left. Follow Burke Lake Road to the Fairfax County Parkway (SR 7100). Cross the Parkway. Go 0.2 miles and take the first left onto Lakehaven Lane. The church is located on the right at the intersection of Lakehaven Lane and Lakehaven Court.

Cherry Hill, From 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/

Colvin Run Community Center, is located at 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls, VA 22066 (10 minutes west of Tysons Corner off Rte. 7). Contact Ed at edcottrell@macp.org or (703) 435-5620 or Gail at gailcrum3@aol.com or (703) 450-6539.

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. http://www.dancefactory.com/saturdays.html. 703/528-9770.

Luther Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Rd., Falls Church, VA. From the Capital Beltway: Take exit 50A-B to US-50 W/Arlington Blvd toward Fairfax. Merge onto Gallows Rd/VA-650 N. Turn left on Gatehouse Rd then right into school. Park in back lot near buses/tennis courts.

Nokesville Firehall, Rt. 28 South to left on Fitzwater. Left on Marstellar. Firehall on left. For info email: letsgogigi@gmail.com.

Reston Community Center, From 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.

Stafford American Legion, 1204 American Legion Rd (County Rd 628), Stafford, VA. From I-95 south, take exit 143A for VA-610 E. Merge onto Garrisonville Rd/VA 610. Turn right at US 1. Go about 5.3 miles. Turn right at American Legion Rd. Go .3 mi.

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 Ayr Hill 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.

Nominations Update

by Karen Johnson

Email: membership@nvcwda.org

The end of the current term is quickly approaching, and we still have several important Board positions that will be vacant if no one steps forward. Please take a moment to read the position descriptions and seriously consider volunteering for one of the upcoming openings. The most important is the Treasurer's position. The Association absolutely cannot function without a Treasurer. If you would like more detail on what is involved, please talk to Donna Dennis. Donna has been the Treasurer for several years and has the books well under control. Bobby and Patty Orndorff, who are currently Vice President and Special Events Director respectively, can provide more detail on those positions. For more details on the Director-at-Large position, please talk to me or Bo and Ann Marlin. Please seriously consider volunteering for one of these openings. The Association cannot continue to host our wonderful dances without volunteers. We need your help!

- Vice President The Vice President fills in for the President when necessary, makes up the Desk Duty Schedule, and makes sure that we are insured to dance at each venue.
- Treasurer The Treasurer is responsible for payment of Association bills, maintaining bookkeeping records in QuickBooks (could possibly be switched to Quicken), submitting required forms when due, and keeping the Board informed of the Association's financial activities and status.
 The Treasurer is currently also responsible for picking up

Association mail at the Merrifield Post Office once a week and re-directing to the appropriate Board member.

- Special Events The Special Events Director is responsible for coordinating with volunteers to provide decorations and refreshments for special event dances during the year. These decorations and refreshments are in addition to the regular refreshments and decorations coordinated by the Director At-Large. There are several special event dances as follows during the year: Anniversary Dance, Benefit Dance, Halloween Dance, Toys-for-Tots Dance, Christmas Dance, and New Year's Eve Dance.
- **Director-at-Large** The Director-at-Large is responsible for coordinating refreshments at the regular Association dances. This includes making sure that there are drinks, basic snack items, and the necessary paper products at each dance. The Director can either bring and setup all required items or coordinate with other members who are willing to bring food and drink items and monitor refreshments during the dance.

All Board members are expected to attend six Board meetings, which are held every other month and last about an hour and a half. Board members, except for the Directorat-Large, who is busy monitoring refreshments, are also expected to do door duty at the dances on a rotation basis. If you would like further information regarding any of the Board positions or have any comments or suggestions, please email me at membership@nvcwda.org or speak to me or any of the Board members at one of the dances. Your involvement in any capacity will be greatly appreciated.

| 01/2011 | MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWA Northern Virginia Country-Western Dan PO Box 384 Merrifield, VA 22116-0384 | ce Association | | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Name | NEW ADDRES: | _ | | | | |
| Address | Apt | 1 year - \$18.00 | | | | |
| City | StateZip | 2 year - \$30.00 - | | | | |
| Birthday: Month | Day (Must be 18 years of age) | 2 year - \$30.00 | | | | |
| | 2nd Your email address will only be used for emergency | Cach Chack# | | | | |
| Email | broadcasts of event changes | S. | | | | |
| Please check your preferences on the following questions: | | | | | | |
| Do you want to have your name and phone number published in the Membership Directory? | | | | | | |
| Would you be willing to help with some of the activities during the year? | | | | | | |
| Would you like your birthday listed in the Newsletter on your birthday month? | | | | | | |
| ★ New members are entitled to one free admission to a regular dance. Today's date | | | | | | |

Board members for the upcoming term which begins in June—a Vice President and Special Events Director for sure. We've pretty much pared the respective duties down to the bare minimums to respect everyone's time and other responsibilities, but we need to have the positions filled (especially the VP position) to keep the Association running. We'll also accept "nominations" from those who may have some great candidates (e.g., friends) in mind. See Karen Johnson or any Board member if you think you may be interested or have any questions.

Unfortunately, it appears that this year's government budget cuts may wind up jeopardizing our New Year's Eve dance/gala. Due to austerity measures, the Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall Community Center is reducing its staff and operating hours and therefore will not likely be open this year for New Year's Eve. We're still hoping that they can make some alternate arrangements but, long story short, we may not have an affordable location for our annual New Year's Eve gala. We're actively looking for another location and could use your help. If you have some connections or know of another potentially suitable location, please see Dan Pierce or Patty Orndorff.

Finally, we're always looking for some new line dance or couples dance instructors. So if you're interested in being one of the volunteer dance instructors, see Kat Fanelli and I'm sure she'll be glad to put you on the schedule. See you on the dance floor!



Foray into Facebook

by Kerie Hitt

NVCWDA's Facebook page has been up and running for several months, and it is a good complement to our website. We've used the Facebook page to list our upcoming dances, convey changes in our dance lessons, remind people about Steppers performances, interact with other dance associations, and share news about the wider dance community. For example, in late February, we got word about the proposed zoning change that would restrict dance floor size in eating establishments in Fairfax County. Our Facebook page was hopping with timely updates on the status of the proposal as it first came before the Fairfax County Planning Commission and then was considered by the Board of Supervisors. (The BOS deferred the public hearing pending further study.)

The more people who participate on our Facebook page and talk about NVCWDA, the more outreach will occur. If you have a Facebook page, we invite you to "Like" the NVCWDA page. Once you like us, our periodic postings about NVCWDA will show up on your Facebook page. You also will be able to comment and share material with NVCWDA. (If you do not have a Facebook page, you still can look at our page, but you won't be able to perform any actions.)

To open our Facebook page, go to www.facebook.com/ NVCWDA. You can get there from our website, too. Liking our Facebook page is a simple way to support NVCWDA. Jump in, the water's fine.

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.org

NVCWDA EMAIL ADDRESS info@nvcwda.org



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