



# Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association NEWSLETTER

CELEBRATING THIRTY-ONE YEARS OF TWO-STEPPING  
**31<sup>st</sup>**  
Anniversary  
1986  2017

Vol. XXXII, No. 1

Official Publication

Third Quarter 2017

## President's Report

by Gary Campbell

Hi everybody, my name is Gary Campbell and I'm your new president. For those that don't know me I've been around the Association since 1989 and have served in numerous positions on the board, including president. I look forward to this next year. I would like to thank Eileen Scott and the past board for a job well done. Most of the board stayed on for another year. I am looking forward to working with them. We have already had a board meeting and some great ideas were discussed. This is your association so we are open to suggestions. If you have any ideas on how to improve the dances and where to look for more members please pass them on to any of the board members. I don't have much to say except that everybody at the dances is there to have fun and no one is trying to upset anyone. Always be quick with an "I'm sorry" or "excuse me" even if it's not your fault. I look forward to seeing all of you on the dance floor and smiling. Thanks for your confidence in me to be your president.



## Welcome 2017-2018 Board!



Photo Courtesy Kerie Hitt

*Left to right: Bernie Vitale (Membership Director), Lydia Vitale (Communications Director), Eileen Scott, (Past President), Linda Bloyer (Dance Director), Nancy Vogelmann (Secretary), Linda Buckle (At Large), Bruce Wright (Planning Director), Gary Campbell (President), Wayne Herndon (Vice President), Bill Wong (Treasurer), Bo Marlin (Swearing in the Board). Thank you Bo and Gary for serving on the Nominations Committee. Special Events position is vacant - please join us!*

## Dance Demo Team Performance Schedule

<b>July 8</b>	<b>Line Dance Team</b>	4:00 - Vinson Hall, 6251 Old Dominion Dr., McLean, VA
<b>July 29</b>	<b>Both Teams</b>	3:15 - Four Seasons at Historic Virginia, 16400 Four Seasons Dr., Dumfries, VA
<b>Aug. 6</b>	<b>Both Teams</b>	11:00 - 4-H Fair, Frying Pan Park, VA
<b>Sept. 9</b>	<b>Both Teams</b>	10:00 - Armed Forces Retirement Home, 140 Rock Creek Church Rd. NW, Washington, DC
<b>Sept. 30</b>	<b>Both Teams</b>	11:00 - Fall for Fairfax, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA
<b>Oct. 28</b>	<b>Couples Team</b>	2:00 - Sunrise Fair Oaks, 3750 Joseph Siewick Dr., VA
<b>Nov. 4</b>	<b>Couples Team</b>	2:00 - The Hermitage Retirement Commun., 5000 Fairbanks Ave, Alexandria, VA

*Please check website to verify dates in case of schedule changes.*

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## 2017-2018 NVCWDA Board of Directors

### OFFICERS

President	Gary Campbell
Vice President	Wayne Herndon
Secretary	Nancy Vogelmann
Treasurer	Bill Wong

### DIRECTORS

Dance	Linda Bloyer
Communications	Lydia Vitale
Membership	Bernie Vitale
Planning	Bruce Wright
Special Events	Vacant
At Large	Linda Buckle
Past President	Eileen Scott

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 \$36 for two years payable to NVCWDA at the address above. Advertising deadline is the 15th of the month preceding publication. 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](mailto:communications@nvcwda.org). Mail check to NVCWDA, P.O. Box 384, Merrifield, VA 22116-0384.

### COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

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## Membership Report by Bernie Vitale

I would like to extend a huge THANK YOU for all the work Eric Vondra does in the background to keep the membership information up to date, sending out the little labels for the membership cards, sending out email blasts, collecting birthday and new member information for the newsletter... all the work the Membership Director normally does except for attending meetings and taking turns at the door. Because of all his help, I am able to fill the official position. Please keep in mind that this type of partnership is an option if you can commit to help with a position enough to enable someone to step forward and take the official title. We still need a Special Events Director.

I appreciate all the support coming from the members to help keep the

association running. People come early to help set up and people stay late to help put everything away and clean up. **THANK YOU WONDERFUL MEMBERS!**

We currently have 121 members and are open to all suggestions for ways to increase those numbers. A continuing project has been association t-shirts.

**T-SHIRTS!** Wearing shirts with our logo on them will help advertise our association. We have started a new order. We have a few t-shirt requests now, eight so far, but are holding off putting an order in until we have at least 15 since the price drops significantly, bringing it down to around \$20 per shirt. When you get them, don't just wear them to the dances, wear them when you go out to other events around the area. **PLEASE LET ME KNOW** if you would like to order a t-shirt.

Happy Trails!

– Bernie



If you are considering joining one of the demo teams, ask for royal blue and order now at the group rate while the price is low.

## Lessons Taught Recently at NVCWDA Dances

Step sheets for most of the dances listed below are available on our [website](http://www.nvcwda.org), under the "DANCE INFO" tab.

Reggae Cowboy (Couples)	Southside Shake LD
Escapate LD	Funky Cha Cha LD
Gin & Tonic LD	Beer for My Horses LD
Somethng Fine (Couples)	Blue Rose (Couples)
Head Over Boots (Couples)	Sidekick (Couples)
A Country High LD	Never Ever LD
McGraw Stroll (Couples)	Lover Please Come Back (Couples)



## Dance Director's Report

by Linda Bloyer

As we move into the summer months, we try to keep dancing as regularly as possible. I hope you find the time to join us at the dances many times over the summer. We'll continue to have lessons at every dance, so there's always something to learn or re-learn.

The focus of my article in this edition is an attempt to increase participation in the Couples' Demo team. I want to remain positive, but the bottom line is that **WE NEED MORE PARTICIPANTS**. This team is not a huge time commitment. If you read the rest of the article, you may find that you can participate, even if it's on a part-time basis. We have a dedicated, core group, but with the busy schedules that everyone has, especially during the summer, we are going to be very short on dancers for a couple of the performances we have scheduled. So, if you know some, or all, of the dances we're using, please come and practice with us a time or two and you can join us for one or more of the scheduled performances.

**PRACTICES**.....So far, we have been practicing before dances, coming in an hour or two early. So, there's no extra practice day.

**DANCES YOU NEED TO KNOW**.....We are doing all Pattern/Specialty Dances that have been taught at the dances, most of them recently. Many of you know all, or most, of the dances we are using and have probably been doing some of them for years. We are performing some very simple variations to El Paso and Cotton-Eyed Joe, but other than that, it's currently all straight dances as we do them every dance. We'll only be dancing all of our dances at the few performances that we have an hour for just the couples. I'll be happy to send you the list.

**PERFORMANCES**.....Currently there are seven performances scheduled, although some of them may have to be canceled or rescheduled due to lack of dancers to perform. None of us can make all of the performances, so you do not have to be at all of the performances (although it would be great if you could) in order to join us. Three of the performances are scheduled to be an hour. Four of them are an hour or less and will be done with the Line Dance Team, so nobody will have to do that many dances. I can send you the current list of dates.

**SO, WHY ARE YOU NOT JOINING US?**.....I've spoken to many of you about joining us. I have gotten various responses.

**I/We're too busy.** We're all busy. I've tried to make this process as painless as possible. Please talk to some of the participants. It has not taken up a lot of time. So far our practices have taken place just prior to our regular dances. We often hear that people would like an extra dance day, so here's the opportunity in the form of a performance.

**I/We don't like to perform in front of other people.** As many of the former Steppers have told me, many of these performances are done for people who are just very happy to have a group there to perform. My narration will definitely include the information that we are volunteers, not

### First Performance for Couples Demo Team at Paul Springs Retirement Community June 25th



Photos Courtesy Linda Bloyer

professionals, and that we do this for fun. That will cover a lot of issues. Yes, we're trying to do the dances correctly and keep together to make them look good, but we'll likely not be perfect. Besides, we all perform to some degree every time we step on the dance floor at the regular dances. One member of the Line Dance Team recently told me how it's not nearly as scary now as it was the first performance. So, if you can get by the first one, you'll be fine. PLUS, you're dancing in a group, and there is always safety in numbers. Nobody is going to be focusing on any one person or couple.

**I/We aren't good enough dancers**.....Also see the notes above. We are doing dances that most all of you know (in some cases for years and years) or can learn. I'm certainly willing to meet with anyone to teach them a dance, if needed. I have been asking that the DJs play many of them at the dances every time so we can get some practice. Most of the dances have been taught or reviewed recently at the dances. There's also no requirement that everyone perform every dance right away.

**I don't have a partner**.....You don't really need one. As I said above, we have six people without a regular partner. We need some leaders to balance the numbers, but that's where we are with couples' dancing in this association in general. If we have an extra follower at a performance, I will step in and lead, but would prefer to not have to do that. (If you're worried you'd be the only one making mistakes, watch me doing the leader's part when I haven't practiced enough.)

*continued on page 4*

### The ONLY requirements to being a part of the team:

1. You like to dance,
2. You are a member of the NVCWDA (for insurance purposes).
3. You have one of the royal blue T-shirts and black jeans or skirt (skirts for ladies only please). Bernie will order more T-shirts if needed. If you want to dance & can find a blue shirt (before we can get you one of the NVCWDA ones, you can dance anyway).

How could it be any easier? Why are you still sitting on the sidelines?

Line Dance Team members are more than welcome to do both. Since we have four joint performances, it would be good for you to perform with the Couples as well.

We are the community representatives for the NVCWDA. We aim to 'spread the love' of country dancing. Maybe a few people will come to a dance and try it out because they've seen us dance and think it looks like fun.

How about it folks? You all come to the dances because you like to dance. Let this be an extension of that dancing.

I need to mention two other pieces of dance business. My intention is to do repeat lessons for some dances, especially some of the more difficult ones, so that folks have a chance to actually learn them. Another addition is that we're going to try doing class review twice each night, rather than only once. None of us are that good at remembering a dance that we learned once, did a few times that one night, sort of could do, and then didn't think about it for at least 2 weeks. So, the music plays at the dance for the review of that dance and very few, if any of us can remember how the dance goes. I will be the first one to tell you that I don't. Some of the simpler dances can be picked up 'on the fly' as long as someone remembers. The more difficult ones just get lost. Nobody remembers, so we just don't try them. Seems counter-productive to teach a dance and then just let it die because nobody remembers. We like to learn new ones, but we have to have them taught a few times until they actually stick in the minds. So, don't be surprised if we do more reruns in the future. There are also many old dances we can bring back to newer music.

Along the same lines, there was discussion at the Board meeting on 6/18 about teaching more couples' dances, specifically Two Step. Many of us know how to do this basic country partner dance, but many of us aren't that comfortable with it, so there are often few people dancing. The feeling of the Board was that we need to go back to teaching more of the lead & follow partner dances. So, since Two Step is the first one people usually learn, and it goes to more music, there will be short basic lessons added in to most every dance night. I'm not sure how this will work yet. My plan is to do a 5-10 minute basic lesson, and hopefully impart a little lead & follow technique each time. This could be a 'floating' lesson for a while until we figure out how best to fit it in to an already crowded schedule.

If you liked some of the dances taught recently and would like them taught again, please let me know which ones. I'll see about putting them on the schedule. If there's something else,

please send me a link to the video and I'll check it out.

Have a good summer!

– Linda

### Demo team dressed up for an island getaway as they danced Easy Love to the song "Vacation" at Celebrate Fairfax Fair June 10th



Photo Courtesy Bruce Wright

## Treasurer's Report

by Bill Wong

The Benefit dance netted \$3,427 to Fisher House Foundation.

In March, NVCWDA joined the National FastDance Association and now pays ASCAP, BMI, and SESAC fees through them. This saves us more than \$400 a year. Also, the phone hotline was discontinued since it's rarely used. That saves us more than \$600 a year.

The association started the fiscal year with \$9,017.67 on May 31, 2016 and closed the fiscal year with a balance of \$9,579.54 on May 31, 2017 for a net gain of \$561.87. The balance as of June 19, 2017 is \$10,204.54.

Below is the quarterly and end of the fiscal year report:

Category	Aug 2016	Nov 2016	Feb 2017	May 2017	Fiscal Yr. Ending 5/31/17
<b>INCOME</b>					
Admissions	1,585.00	3,105.00	3,436.00	3,553.00	11,679.00
Donations Payable to Others	0.00	0.00	370.00	2,015.00	2,385.00
Donations Received	93.00	116.00	128.00	809.25	1,146.25
Interest Inc	.18	.18	0.20	0.23	0.79
Membership Dues	198.00	522.00	324.00	522.00	1,566.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>1,876.18</b>	<b>3,743.18</b>	<b>4,258.20</b>	<b>6,899.48</b>	<b>16,777.04</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
DJ (1099 payee)	1,500.00	1,800.00	1,900.00	1,800.00	7,000.00
Donations to Others	0.00	0.00	370.00	3,427.00	3,797.00
Dues, Fees, Licenses	0.00	55.00	778.00	-328.80	504.20
Insurance	0.00	536.94	0.00	0.00	536.94
Phone	164.77	159.96	160.59	40.31	525.63
Space Rental	1,365.00	350.00	300.00	1,000.00	3,015.00
Supplies	0.00	37.52	291.21	356.49	685.22
Website	0.00	0.00	151.18	0.00	151.18
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>3,029.77</b>	<b>2,939.42</b>	<b>3,950.98</b>	<b>6,295.00</b>	<b>16,215.17</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>-1,153.59</b>	<b>803.76</b>	<b>307.22</b>	<b>604.48</b>	<b>561.87</b>



## Board Meeting Summary

by Nancy Vogelman

**April 29:** Board of Directors meeting was held at Wayne's house in Fairfax with full attendance. The privacy issue of having any member's personal telephone number or email address on the NVCWDA website or used in Association-related filings was brought up. The Board agreed that no personal numbers or email addresses should be posted. We'll use info@nvcwda.org and the other emails for positions, rather than the names of the people. Bill presented a listing of the current fiscal year transactions to date. It shows a balance of \$8,854.59 with a fiscal year loss of \$163.08. A \$1,412 check was sent to Fisher House Foundation, Inc representing the net income from our benefit dance. The total we sent to Fisher House was \$3,427. So far our fiscal year average dance attendance is over fifty people.

The Dance Director announced that at the time of this meeting dance lessons and instructors were lined up through the end of May, and that the couple's team is practicing prior to dances. Couple's team's first performance is the last Sunday in June at Paul Springs, a retirement facility, on Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Our Planning Director is going to inquire about the availability of Lincolnia Senior Center for 5th Saturdays in 2018. The dates are: March 31, June 30, and September 29. Linda Buckle reported her expenses covering January to the present, including the successful Benefit Dance, food and supplies, at \$323.45. All the food was wonderful! Thanks to all who participated! The colored tablecloths really made a difference too!

Membership meeting for the Election of Candidates is set for the May 20 dance. We need a Nominating Committee, who cannot be a member of the Board of Directors. The Board will not change except President and Special Events will be open. Discussion of potential of unfilled President position. Bill reminded the Board that Article II F. of our Constitution requires that the President and at least 6 other board positions be active and filled at all times. The Vice President reminded us the Board of the State of Virginia requiring 4 positions to be filled: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

T-Shirts: Bernie has found a new company for T-shirts, Custom Ink, 6 shirts with front and back logos for \$37.95 each (much less if 15 are ordered at a time). A motion was made, seconded and passed, to require all NVCWDA team shirts, moving forward, to have logos on both front and back. Current team members with shirts do not need to replace them with the new design until they are worn out.

Dance Workshops as Fundraiser for Benefit Dance Next Year 2018: A discussion was held regarding whether 3 of the 4 "5th Saturdays" in 2018 (March 31, June 30, and September 29) should be brought back as either a 3rd dance of the month or a workshop. Currently in 2017 we are not having such dances. Bruce will ask Lincolnia Senior Center if they are available to be booked this far in advance. If we get availability of those dates, then we can decide whether to have a workshop, dance or both.

Our next meeting was set for June 18th.

## Southern Maryland Boot Scooters Perform for the 2017 Benefit Dance



Photos Courtesy Bruce Wright

## Member Updates

It is hard to keep up with our members who have moved out of the area or who are not able to attend the dances often. We would like to hear from you! I would like to set up a corner for news events from our members past and present. Please send notes and photos when you have a chance! I will start with Linda-B Woodworth who was in the area for a visit.

Life Member Linda-B Woodworth recently had a second heart attack but is doing well. Her advice: Sit down immediately if you are not feeling well. Being closer to the floor could lessen the risk of injury in case of a fall.

Linda-B is proud to be a grandmother of nineteen and great grandmother of three.

—Melbourne, Florida



Linda-B Woodworth

## Newsletter Deadline

**September 18 for articles, reports, ads and news items**  
**Email to: [communications@nvcwda.org](mailto:communications@nvcwda.org)**

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

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

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

## July Birthdays

07/10 Nancy Lake  
07/16 Linda Buckle  
07/22 Carol Caruso  
07/22 Kerie Hitt  
07/27 John Gentile

## August Birthdays

08/16 Eileen Scott  
08/19 Lydia Vitale  
08/30 George Jones

## September Birthdays

09/06 Keith Buckle  
09/18 George Morse Jr  
09/26 Shirley Bennington  
09/28 Jerry Oweis  
09/30 Kathy Fanelli



## Welcome New Members

Sally Glodeck  
Kathleen Katz  
Jerry Aschenbrenner  
Ellen Aschenbrenner

## Newsletter Sections on Website

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



## NVCWDA WEBSITE ADDRESS

[www.nvcwda.org](http://www.nvcwda.org)

## NVCWDA EMAIL ADDRESS

[info@nvcwda.org](mailto:info@nvcwda.org)



Visit us on  
**Facebook**



Scan this code  
with your  
smartphone  
to open our  
website.



07/2017

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL/CHANGE FORM

Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association

P.O. Box 384

Merrifield, VA 22116-0384



### Individual Members Only

### Membership Category

New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ 1 year .....\$18.00  
\_\_\_\_\_ 2 years ....\$36.00  
\_\_\_\_\_ 90 Day.....Free Trial\*

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

Make check payable to NVCWDA

Cash ☐ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ NEW ADDRESS  
check here ☐

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday: Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ (Must be 18 years of age)

Phone: 1st \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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 \_\_\_

\*Trial memberships are only available for those who have never been members.

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