



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

CELEBRATING TWENTY SIX YEARS OF TWO-STEPPING  
**26<sup>th</sup>**  
Anniversary  
1986  2012

Vol. XXVII, No. 2

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Fourth Quarter 2012

## President's Report

by Bo Marlin

Email: [president@nvcwda.org](mailto:president@nvcwda.org)

I know it's hard to believe, but the summer is over, and we're rapidly heading into the holiday season. Where does the time go?

For those who missed our 26th Anniversary Dance in September, we once again celebrated the Association's anniversary in grand style. After a couple of months away from Luther Jackson due to some HVAC and cafeteria renovations, we were able to get back into our "normal venue" just in time for the Anniversary Dance. We were honored to have Linda-B, a Life and Charter member of NVCWDA, and Joyce Leamon, also a Charter member, attend the festivities. Many thanks to Linda-B and Joyce for joining us and making our anniversary celebration all the more special. Our own Country Steppers provided an outstanding new couples dance demo at "half-time." We also were privileged to have country-western dance world champions Dale and Anita Strawser provide our dance lesson and perform an incredible Night Club dance routine at half-time as well. Finally, special thanks to Karen Johnson for coordinating the table decorations, all those who helped her with all the "trimmings," and Gary Campbell for once again providing the yummy anniversary cake. By all reviews, everything looked great, and everyone had a good time. Check out

## Newsletter Sections Now on Web Site

[NVCWDA Dance Schedule](#)

[Dance Event Calendar](#)

[Upcoming Steppers Performances](#)

[Looking for Lessons?](#)

[How Do I Get There?](#)



You are cordially  
invited to join us for



## New Year's Eve 2012

NVCWDA is hosting its fun-filled dance party  
to usher in the new year at Pender United Methodist Church

12401 Alder Woods Drive, Fairfax, VA

Music provided by Bernie and Lydia Vitale

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31

From 8:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.

We will have our traditional buffet available as the festivities get started. We are planning to have appetizers, turkey, barbecue, spiral sliced ham, vegetables, salad, bread and soft drinks. There will be a spectacular array of desserts.

**Bring your friends, relatives and kids... They all can enjoy the evening.**

Tickets will be available at dances and by mail.

Information about ordering tickets will be announced later.

our Facebook site for some pictures of the event.

Since we're officially entering the holiday season, please mark your calendars and plan to join us at our upcoming holiday dances: our Halloween dance on November 3 (always a good time for those who love to "dress up"), our Toys for Tots dance on December 1 (please bring a new toy or monetary donation for the kids), our annual Christmas dance on December 15, and, of course, our traditional New Year's Eve dance on December 31. Note that this year we have a new location for the New Year's Eve dance: Pender United Methodist Church in Fairfax. Whew! Makes me tired just thinking about it, but the upcoming busy season promises to be great fun as always!

As I've mentioned in the past, increasing room rental rates and custodian fees are continuing to stress our Association's operating funds. Unfortunately we've had to cut back on some member benefits such as hard copy

newsletters and free dance admissions in order to avoid raising annual dues and/or dance admission fees. On the bright side, many of you have heard our pleas and responded by providing a little more in our donation hat/jars at our dances. Every little bit helps, and your generosity is appreciated. As we approach the end of the tax year, if you're looking for a fully tax-deductible donation to a 501(c)(3) charity, please consider giving to the

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## 2012-2013 NVCWDA Board of Directors

### OFFICERS

President	Bo Marlin
Vice President	Gary Campbell
Secretary	Pat McMurray
Treasurer	Gigi Castle (Karen Johnson, Acting)

### DIRECTORS

Dance	Kathy Fanelli
Communications	Kerie Hitt
Membership	Eric Vondra
Planning	Steve Kinnett
Special Events	Vacant
At Large	Karen Johnson (Bo and Ann Marlin, Acting)
Steppers	Susan Scott
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 \$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

Newsletter Coordinator Kerie Hitt  
[communications@nvcwda.org](mailto:communications@nvcwda.org)  
Newsletter Design Lydia Vitale  
Webmaster/Facebook Kerie Hitt  
[webmaster@nvcwda.org](mailto:webmaster@nvcwda.org)  
Hotline Mistress Diane Foster

## Communications Report

by Kerie Hitt

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

We continue to send out information using our web site, Facebook page, and hotline with judicious use of broadcast email. I did not hear major complaints about issuing the newsletter only online. I hope that everyone is becoming accustomed to using the digital copies.

Our [online calendar](#) shows our upcoming dances through the end of 2012. The calendar always shows basic information about dance dates and usually lists the DJ. Details about lessons are added as they become available from the Dance director. Last minute changes or cancelations are posted as soon as possible.

I encourage everyone to participate on our Facebook page by posting comments and photos. Some of our former members who no longer live in this area still keep in touch on Facebook. You might even be able to connect with some long lost friends.

## Membership Report

by Eric Vondra

Email: [membership@nvcwda.org](mailto:membership@nvcwda.org)

We currently have 187 members, with 33 overdue for renewal. I am doing expiration notifications via email now, so once I get the schedule caught up, I will be sending out a reminder for upcoming renewals and a separate notice of expired memberships on a regular basis. Please contact me at [membership@nvcwda.org](mailto:membership@nvcwda.org) if you have a new email address or if you don't know if we have your current email address. Previously we weren't dependent upon email for these notices, but now it

is important that we have a valid email address for you on file. Group emails sent out for membership purposes or for announcement broadcasts will hide your email address from others receiving the email. If you don't have email, I will send out postcards, but I would like to minimize "snail mail" as much as possible. All members still will get their renewal or new member letters with card and/or stickers via the Postal Service.

If you have a question about when your membership expires, just ask me at one of the dances or email me. If you renew after your expiration date, the renewal will be effective for the year starting on the date of expiration.

If you have friends or family who might be interested in country dancing, please bring them to a dance. I brought my niece to the dance at Falls Church High School in August. She doesn't even like country music, but she had a great time at the dance. So you never know!

### SPECIAL EVENTS DIRECTOR NEEDED

This position STILL is vacant! If you can't commit to being on the Board, would you like to take charge of one of our "theme" dances or our New Year's Eve Dance? You just need to be able to delegate what has to be done and our loyal NVCWDA members will help do the leg work. Everyone usually pitches in, but we need someone to have overall responsibility to make sure things come together. As long as this job is open, the rest of the Board has to work extra to make up for the missing person. We still are hoping that someone will take this position. Thanks.

## Upcoming Special Dances

Here's a summary of upcoming special-theme dances.

For details see the [calendar at nvcwda.org/calendar.html](http://nvcwda.org/calendar.html).

Special admission fees apply to the New Year's Eve dance.

Date	Theme	Featuring
November 3	Halloween Dance	Costume contest
December 1	Toys for Tots	Marines
December 15	Christmas	Cookies
December 31	New Year's Eve	Celebration

## Dance Director Report

by Kerie Hitt

Email: [dancedirector@nvcwda.org](mailto:dancedirector@nvcwda.org)

Ah ha, you might notice this is not Kathy Fanelli! I am writing this for Kathy because she has been a busy lady lately! She organized about 60 folks to participate in a flash mob at the opening of the Arlington County fair on August 10. They danced a routine Kathy choreographed herself to the song "I Got a Feeling" by the Black Eyed Peas. Kathy is Ms. Virginia Senior America 2012, and she wants to show people that you never are too old to get up and start dancing and feeling good about yourself. Kathy taught the routine to people at the senior centers in Arlington. Her followers mastered the steps and showed their stuff on the playing field at the fair. After the flash mob, the public jumped out on the field and joined in the fun as everyone danced to the song again. If you want to see a video of the event, go to [youtube.com](http://youtube.com) and search for Senior Citizen Flash Mob at the Arlington County Fair.

By popular demand, the flash mobbers returned for another performance during the opening ceremony of the Northern Virginia Senior Olympics on September 15. Other groups have invited them to perform as well. Kathy also put together a team for the line dance competition at the Senior Olympics on September 17. Her team Lee Center Dancers took the bronze medal in the 50-79 age category. I believe they danced to a Michael Jackson song. Congratulations! They follow in the proud tradition of the Fanelli Dancers (Gold medal 2010), a team that included Kathy Fanelli and Karen Johnson, and NVCWDA's WATA Gators (Gold medal 2004), which included Connie and Don Streeter, Jan Ayton, RePete Trelogan, Luella Montgomery, and Ed Turner.

Kathy added Don Barger as a new DJ/instructor to our roster late this summer. Don has been our DJ at several dances to date, and we look forward to having him at future dances. People are intrigued by the song and dance list that Don hands out at the dances. Naturally, all DJs have a play list, but as far as I know, Don is the first who distributes his list to the dancers. Of course, all of our DJs take requests and modify their set according to people's wishes as far as possible. All DJs try to fit in as many dances and songs that people want in the limited time of the dance.

### Thanks to our helpers

Thank you to the folks who volunteered for desk duty over the past few months to relieve our Board members. If more of you would like to help at the entry table, please talk to one of the Board members about a date and time. Volunteers usually give out the ticket stubs (so easy even a cave man could do it) and spend a little more than an hour at the desk. Your help frees up a Board member to spend a little more time dancing instead of sitting. We also appreciate those of you who help set up and take down at the dances, particularly those who move the chairs and tables. Finally, many thanks to everyone who brings snacks to share.



*NVCWDA Charter and Life Member Linda-B Woodworth (R) cuts our 26th anniversary cake with help from Membership director Eric Vondra (L) at the Anniversary Dance on September 15.*

### NVCWDA Shirts Delivered

Most people have picked up their NVCWDA t-shirts, and they look great. So many attractive colors! Thanks to Luella for coordinating the purchase. The shirt sales netted us about \$200. Plus, people can be walking billboards for NVCWDA when they wear their shirts out and about town.

#### Line Dances taught recently at NVCWDA dances:

Canadian Stomp	Red Solo Cup
Inspiration	Little Red Book
Love, JoAnn	5, 6, 7, 8
Another Song	Baby Doll Waltz
Come Dance With Me	Foot Boogie
Samba Line Dance	Honey Bee
Are You Ready to Roll	Down & Dirty
Country As Can Be	Fallsview Rock
Applejack	Hooked on Country
Stealing the Best	Matador
Irish Stew	True Blue
Forever Green	Knee Deep

#### Couples Specialty Dances taught recently at NVCWDA dances:

Desperado Wrap	Sidekick
Palamino Stroll	Wooden Nickel
Denny Walk	Cotton-Eyed Joe
Swing Switch Mixer	Schottische
Bop the Bs	The Sway
Redneck Girl	McGraw Stroll
Montgomery Cha Cha	Tango with the Sheriff
Chiquita	Santa Fe Stroll
Teton Mountain Stomp	Six Pack Summer
The Wanderer	Smokey Places
Chocolate City Hustle	Butterfly Waltz
The Shadow	



## Planning Director Report

by Steve Kinnett

I have been busy searching for a venue for our New Year's Eve Dance because Fort Myer is not available anymore. I am pleased to announce our dance will be held at Pender United Methodist Church, 12401 Alder Woods Drive, Fairfax, VA. The location is right off Route 50, between Fairfax County Parkway and West Ox Road. We will have plenty of dancing space, as you can see in the photo. Please reserve the night on your calendar!

Regular dances for the fall and winter are scheduled for the first and third Saturdays at Luther Jackson Middle School. We are booked there through December 15, 2012. We are looking forward to seeing you at the upcoming dances. We will be working on next year's plans and value any input and ideas from our members. Please contact us with any suggestions via our hotline (703-860-4941) or [info@nvcwda.org](mailto:info@nvcwda.org). Thanks.



*Pender United Methodist Church is the location for our 2012 New Year's Eve dance.*

## Steppers Report

by Susan Scott

Email: [steppers@nvcwda.org](mailto:steppers@nvcwda.org)

First let me tell you about a few changes in our team members. I am pleased to report that Teri Henry has re-joined our team. She is our former Director, but had left the team in January 2012 for personal reasons. She is a great asset for our group and assists us with dance technique. She has performed very well in competition dancing with partner Mal Zerden. Bobby Orndorff has moved to Winchester, Virginia and has resigned from the team. He was Luella Montgomery's dance team partner since 1997. We are really going to miss Bobby at our performances! Gigi Castle remains on leave, recovering from an injury that occurred earlier this summer.

As promised, I will continue to announce upcoming Country Steppers performances during our dances in hopes that you can stop by to watch us perform sometime. You also can view our "[dance team](#)" link on the NVCWDA web site to see a list of our upcoming performances. Kerie Hitt has done a wonderful job of creating a calendar that provides locations

and directions to our venues. Stepper Three-Pete Andrews, who books our performances, compiles the information listed on the calendar.

We are always seeking new members to join our team. If you are looking to improve your dancing skills and know basic two-step, cha cha, east coast swing, and waltz, we can teach you our routines. Please speak with one of the Steppers at any of our dances if this interests you. We'll be happy to sign you up!



## Treasurer's Report

by Karen Johnson

We are already into the second quarter of the current fiscal year! I wish I could report that we are off to a great financial start, but unfortunately I can't. Here are the first quarter numbers:

### NVCWDA Profit & Loss Statement

06-01-12 through 08-31-12

Income	
Dance Admissions	\$2,548.00
Donations to Association	955.00
Interest	.06
Membership dues	180.00
Total Income	\$3,683.06
Expenses	
DJs	\$1,250.00
Bank Charge	10.00
Donations to Others	150.00
Space Rental	2,527.50
Telephone	154.27
Total Expenses	(\$4,091.77)
Net Income (Loss)	(\$408.71)

As you can see, we showed a loss of more than \$400, and part of the problem is undoubtedly the canceled dance and change of locations that we endured over the summer.

On the bright side, our recent solicitations for donations are beginning to pay off. The donations at the past several dances have increased significantly, and we thank every one of you for your contributions. In fact, the donations at the September dances have already cut the first quarter loss in half! That is very encouraging, so the Board has put out an official donation request letter. The letter is included in this newsletter and on our web site and also will be available at upcoming dances. Please take a look at the letter and seriously consider making a donation if you have not done so already. Even a small donation will help and would be greatly appreciated!

But remember, the best way for the Association to grow and prosper is for everyone to help bring in more new attendees and new members. Don't forget to tell your friends and business associates how much fun you have at our dances. Your enthusiasm is our best—and least expensive—advertising!

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September 15, 2012



Dear Friends of Country-Western Dance,

As we celebrate the 26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association, the Board of Directors thanks everyone who has supported the Association over the years. In keeping with our original charter, the Association has provided 26 years of great country-western dances for the local community and excellent dance instruction for all ages. Plus, we have hosted many successful fund raising events that have netted thousands of dollars for very worthy causes. None of this would have happened without your support.

I know you enjoy the wholesome atmosphere of our dances and the fun exercise and socializing opportunities our dances provide to people of all ages and abilities. We give all of this to you at a reasonable price! But we can't do it alone. We need your support again.

Our resolve to keep country-western dance alive in Northern Virginia is as strong as ever, but our membership and dance attendance numbers have declined. With these declines, we've had a corresponding decline in income. The Association has not made an annual profit since the fiscal year ending May 31, 2009. From June to August 2012, at most of our dances, admission fees did not cover expenses. We have cut costs and member benefits and are trying very hard not to raise membership or admission fees. We also have tried to increase membership and attendance but with limited success.

On the bright side, as a result of our requests for help, your donations have covered the losses on recent dances and have kept us in the black for June to August 2012. Because of this success, we are again asking for your help. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to the Association to help us continue to fulfill our mission of providing great country-western dance opportunities to you and others in our community. If each of you would donate what you can, the funds would go a long way toward keeping the Association going.

Again, thank you to everyone who has supported the Association over the years. I hope I can count on you to help us provide many more years of country-western dances. Please take a moment to mail your donation to the address below or bring it to a dance. See you on the dance floor!

Sincerely,

ROBERT "BO" MARLIN  
President

*The Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association is recognized as a tax-exempt public charity under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code.*

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NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ (We will mail you a receipt.)  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00    \_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00    \_\_\_\_\_ \$50.00    \_\_\_\_\_ \$100.00

\_\_\_\_\_ \$250.00 (Covers DJ fees for one dance)    \_\_\_\_\_ \$330.00 (Covers rent for one dance)

\_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Make check payable and mail to: NVCWDA, P.O. Box 384, Merrifield, VA 22116.  
Thank you.**



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

### October Birthdays

10/01 Bernie Vitale  
10/05 Joyce Leamon  
10/10 Robert Marlin  
10/11 Elizabeth Penaranda  
10/12 Sandy Hudson  
10/13 Susan Atwood  
10/18 Dale Weed  
10/20 Bill Hardwick  
10/23 Richard Franklin  
10/27 Patricia McMurray

### November Birthdays

11/01 Lynne Inman  
11/01 Mona Newman  
11/05 Angela Hollingsworth  
11/05 Pat Shrader  
11/10 Peter Andrews  
11/16 Ken Kearney  
11/26 Charles Drummond  
11/29 Mal Zerden  
11/30 Fred Crowson  
11/30 Patricia Sandefur

### December Birthdays

12/01 David Bailey  
12/01 Gigi Castle  
12/03 Linda-B Woodworth  
12/04 Francie Andrews  
12/25 Delbert Ashby  
12/25 Steven Swart  
12/27 Richard Humbert  
12/31 Don Barger

## Welcome New Members!

Andrew O'Neel  
Lara O'Neel  
Ron Grendysz  
Trish Grendysz

### President's Report

—continued from page 1

Association. To make the process easier for you, we've developed a "donation letter" that should provide all the details you'll need to make a donation. We've included the letter in this newsletter; it is also on our web site, and we'll put it out on the admission desk at the dances from now on. Thank you in advance for your support and for keeping country-western dancing alive in Northern Virginia! And as always, see you on the dance floor!

## Summary of August 8, 2012 Board Meeting

by Kerie Hitt

Communications director has changed the newsletter deadline to the 15th of the preceding month. Also discussed announcements to the media, people using our Facebook page, and interest in DJ Don Barger's play list. Will put a prominent link to the current newsletter on the main web page.

Treasurer is waiting for her predecessor to submit a year end report for last fiscal year. Our tax return is due September 15. Our bank balance is about \$2000. Our insurance will cover our dance at Falls Church High School on August 18. In fact, any FCPS location should be covered under our policy. We voted to confirm Luella Montgomery as a signatory on the Steppers bank account. The Steppers financial report covering the last fiscal year still is due.

Treasurer will revise dance profit and loss reports to show income and expenses separately from income from donations and membership dues.

We need to stress our charitable work in order to maintain our 501(c)(3) status. This status allows people to make tax-deductible donations to NVCWDA. We will prepare a letter requesting donations for NVCWDA.

We moved to have the Planning director book the Pender Church for New Year's Eve and to have a joint Steppers Reunion/Anniversary Dance on September 21, 2013. We scheduled the 2013 Benefit dance for April 20, 2013. Membership director reported that almost 30 memberships are expired and he's been sending out reminders.

The standing rules and rules of order still need to be updated to reflect recent administrative changes enacted by the Board.

Next meeting is October 10, 2012.

### Newsletter Deadline

**December 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)

## Send Us Your Email Address

Email is going to be our primary means of communicating with members. Our database is missing a lot of email addresses, and we need to fill in the missing information. Please let us know your address so that you don't miss any important messages from us. Your email address will be used only for official NVCWDA notifications, including membership renewals and announcements. Please send your information to [membership@nvcwda.org](mailto:membership@nvcwda.org).

## 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



## Remember Toys for Tots December 1st!

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)



Visit us on  
**Facebook**



Scan this code  
with your  
smartphone  
to open our  
website.



## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL/CHANGE FORM

Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association

P.O. Box 384

Merrifield, VA 22116-0384



06/2012

*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 \_\_\_\_\_