



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

CELEBRATING TWENTY SEVEN YEARS OF TWO-STEPPING  
**27<sup>th</sup>**  
Anniversary  
1986  2013

Vol. XXVIII, No. 2

Official Publication

Fourth Quarter 2013

## President's Report

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

I am amazed how quickly summer went by, and now it's already time for a fall article by El Presidente. I hope everyone was able to enjoy their summer. One of my enjoyable experiences this summer was in early August when I attended the Virginia Line Dance Festival in Richmond, VA. Several other people from NVCWDA also attended. This is an excellent event for those who enjoy line dancing. However, be aware that they dance to many other genres of music besides country. I can share more info on this event upon request.

As far as the summer went at NVCWDA, everyone enjoyed the Independence Day/Ice Cream Social dance in early July at AUUC. A special thank you to Kathy Fannelli and Karen Johnson for bringing the ice cream.

On September 21, NVCWDA celebrated its 27th Anniversary with a dance at the Hollin Hall Senior Center in Alexandria. The dance also featured a reunion of the Country Steppers, NVCWDA's demonstration dance group that performs in Northern Virginia and sometimes even beyond. Current members of the Country Steppers also performed during the open dance period and gave lessons beforehand. While Hollin Hall is a small venue compared to the Lincolnia Senior Center, everyone at the dance had a good time. A big thank you goes out to Lynne Inman for her hard work in making this dance successful. Also thank you to everyone who brought food that night.

The fall and early winter season will feature a number of special dances. I will once again host the Halloween Dance on November 2. I am planning to downsize decorations and other things at this dance in comparison to what I've done in the past. On December 7, NVCWDA is

## Bylaws Review Committee

We are looking for a few NVCWDA members to help us review our bylaws, constitution, standing rules, and other operating documents, which are woefully out of date. We need to update the documents and make sure our procedures are consistent with them. You even might explore the advantages and disadvantages of continuing NVCWDA as a corporation. We especially could use people with a background in dealing with nonprofit organizations.

planning to hold its Toys for Tots Dance. We will collect new, unwrapped toys for the Marine Corps. December 21 will be our Christmas Dance. We will attempt to dance to some Christmas songs, and participants can bring cookies to exchange with others. Finally, we still are planning to hold the New Year's Eve Dance, providing we secure a venue. Look for more details on this as we get closer to the date.

A very special thank you goes out to Paula Ali for accepting the Special Events Director position. She will be a valued asset to the Board. With that in mind, we still are seeking a Planning Director and a Member at Large. If anyone is interested in what these positions encompass, or better yet, if anyone would like to serve in either of these positions, please let me or a Board member know. Not having a Planning Director has hindered us in our search for places to dance, particularly for New Year's Eve. We also are looking for a few NVCWDA members to serve on a

## Note from the Editor about the New Year's Eve Dance

Usually, this edition of the newsletter would contain information for the upcoming New Year's Eve Dance. In this case, no news is not good news. As we went to press, we hadn't found a location for the dance yet, so I decided not to run the notice. As of September 29, we are pursuing a lead on what is probably our "last chance" at finding a place. Stay tuned...



Bylaws review team.

We are approaching the time of year when the weather may affect activities in the Northern Virginia area. Our inclement weather policy is based on whether Fairfax County Public Schools are open on the Saturday of our dance. If evening activities in the schools are canceled, our dance is canceled as well.

I hope everyone enjoys their fall season. Get out and dance!

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## 2013-2014 NVCWDA Board of Directors

### OFFICERS

President	Rick Humbert
Vice President	Eileen Scott
Secretary	Irshad Ali
Treasurer	Bill Wong

### DIRECTORS

Dance	Kathy Fanelli
Communications	Kerie Hitt
Membership	Eric Vondra
Planning	Vacant
Special Events	Paula Ali
At Large	Vacant
Steppers	Luella Montgomery
Past President	Bo Marlin

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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## Kathy and Company Perform at Several Events

by Bill Wong

NVCWDA Dance Director Kathy Fanelli has been busy leading dancers in flash mobs and a line dance competition and teaching classes.

On August 11, I had fun participating in a flash mob at the Arlington County Fair. Kat Fanelli coordinated the line dance "Blue Night Cha" to Robin Thicke's "Blurred Lines." Except for a video of a rehearsal, no videos of the actual event appear to be available.

On September 7, Kat coordinated another flash mob, this time at the opening ceremonies of the Burke Centre Festival. We danced "Blue Night Cha" to a remix of Miley Cyrus's "Party in the USA." See <http://burke.patch.com/groups/arts-and-entertainment/p/watch-flashmob-dancers-at-burke-centre-festival> for a video by Patch. No, we didn't do any twerking!

On September 9, I performed in my first line dance team competition at the Northern Virginia Senior Olympics. Again Kat Fanelli coordinated everything from the music to the costumes to the line dancing. We danced "Blue Night Cha" to a version of Robin Thicke's "Blurred Lines." I dressed as a nerd, complete with a beanie and a slide rule I actually used when I was in high school. Times do change! Our team, the Lee Center Dancers, won Bronze. See "Lee Center Dancers 2013 Senior Olympics" at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C1s5-c1hhKA> for a video clip. The video is also available on my Dancebill Channel playlist at [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C1s5-c1hhKA&list=PLzVlc1jZr2WC1cLzUprO-LOi1\\_C4ki80o](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C1s5-c1hhKA&list=PLzVlc1jZr2WC1cLzUprO-LOi1_C4ki80o). While visiting my dance channel, check out the other clips I have posted.

Kat also volunteers her services as

a dance instructor at Lincolnia Senior Center and helped them upgrade their sound system.

I am looking forward to more events later this year. I love Kat's dance philosophy: We've succeeded if we make others want to participate.

## Summary of Board Meetings

by Kerie Hitt

**August 7:** Our bank balance is \$9678.13, and membership is 165. The NVCWDA rack cards were updated and are available for distribution. The Dance Director and Treasurer filled in for the empty Planning Director position and located Hollin Hall Senior Center for our dances in September. We have not been able to locate a place for the New Year's Eve dance yet. The Stepper Rep will obtain a list of the current Steppers. Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer will work together to try to decipher the rules and iron out the issues concerning whether NVCWDA is allowed to solicit donations. VP moved that we increase what we pay our DJs by \$50 per dance. The motion passed. The DJs are doing a good job in trying to accommodate both couples and line dancers. If people have an issue with the DJ, they should bring it to the Dance Director, not the DJ. We will post more explicit information on our website regarding young children at our dances to enable parents to decide whether to bring kids or not.

**August 17:** We voted to rent Hollin Hall for an extra hour to allow time to decorate for the Anniversary Dance. Paula Ali volunteered to be Special Events director and was confirmed.

## Dances Taught Third Quarter - Step sheets for most of these dances are available on the [DANCE INFO](#) tab of our website.

07/06/2013	Creepin' LD, Hotdog Boogie LD
07/20/2013	Footloose LD, Cowboy Up LD
08/03/2013	Jose Cuervo LD, Sixteen Step
08/17/2013	Hotdog Boogie LD, Sidekick
09/07/2013	I Need to Know LD, Basic Two Step
09/21/2013	Hooked on Country LD, Charleston Bump

## Anniversary Dance

by Kerie Hitt

About 60 people attended NVCWDA's Anniversary Dance and Steppers reunion on September 21. Before each Anniversary Dance, we invite all of our Charter and Life members to join us. (Charter members are those who joined NVCWDA when it was founded in 1986 and have maintained active membership. Life members are nominated for exceptional service to



Charter members Joyce Leamon (L) and Linda-B Woodworth take time out from visiting old friends at the Anniversary dance.



Current and former Country Steppers enjoyed their reunion.

NVCWDA and are elected by regular members.) We have about a dozen Life members. Some of the Charter and Life members have moved away; others are no longer with us. Again this year, Charter member Joyce Leamon and Charter/Life member Linda-B Woodworth were able to attend the dance.

Several former Steppers came to the reunion and joined the current team in

celebrating the occasion. The memorials to Steppers who have passed away over the years was a poignant reminder of how long the team has existed. On a happier note, DJ BJ Brown mixed some old time favorite dances with current ones. Lynne Inman coordinated the decorations, table centerpieces, and food. Thanks to everyone for a great celebration.

## Tips for Dancing on a "Slow" Dance Floor

by Kerie Hitt

After trying to dance on the sticky floor at Hollin Hall in September, I want once again to share information from the GottaDance! website ([www.gottadance.org](http://www.gottadance.org)). The hints titled "How to Dance on a Bad Dance Floor (Without Killing Yourself, Your Knees, or Anyone Else)" are worth reading. They have a section on strategies to deal with "slow" floors, which are floors that are sticky or rough. Sticky certainly describes the conditions we encountered at Hollin Hall. The main recommendations from GottaDance! are to change your shoes to your most slippery pair, put something slick (such as a name tag, moleskin, peds, or duct tape) on the bottom of your shoes, and change the way you dance so you don't twist and stress your knees. Try to modify your dance style to avoid injuring yourself (for example, pick up your feet and avoid spinning) and make the most of it. (Alas, I tried sticking labels to my shoes at Hollin Hall during the Anniversary Dance, but this trick did not work there, and now I can't get the residue from the labels off the soles of my shoes!)

We did not have much choice in using Hollin Hall; it was either go there or cancel the September dances. Sometimes hot, humid weather and poor air conditioning simply conspire against us. But remember, a "slow" floor could be fine the next occasion, depending on the temperature and humidity at the time of the dance, whether the floor has been mopped or waxed, and so forth. Regardless of the state of the floor wherever we dance, remember we are guests at the facility, and we are not supposed to put anything on the floor.

While we're on the subject of keeping our joints safe from injury, I recommend everyone wear appropriate footwear when dancing. Flip flop people, I'm talking to you! To save your knees, ankles, and feet, I suggest wearing shoes that support your feet and will slide on the floor. We want to keep our bodies healthy and maintain our ability to dance for a long time.



## Volunteers Needed

Thankfully we now have a Special Events Director (Paula Ali), but we still have two vacancies on the Board of Directors: Planning Director and Member at Large. The Planning Director locates places for us to dance. Lack of a Planning Director is beginning to bite us. We should have locked in a place for our traditional New Year's Eve celebration very early in the year. The Member at Large coordinates refreshments at our dances. Dancers have been taking up some of the slack by bringing food to share (thank you), but we would like someone to oversee everything. Other Board members are spreading themselves thin and are trying to fill the duties of these vacancies, but we really need people to come forward to take on the full responsibility. Please help us maintain the high caliber of our dances by volunteering for one of these positions. Thanks.



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## Steppers Report

by Luella Montgomery

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

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With the hot days of summer behind us, the Country Steppers are gearing up for a busy fall and winter schedule. The National Harbor performance is always a treat. We love being outdoors, and we enjoy the scenic view from the Potomac River. Outings such as the Fall for Fairfax Festival (October 5) and the fall community festival at the Manassas Campus of Northern Virginia Community College (October 12) give the Country Steppers the opportunity to showcase country dancing by participating in local community events. We always feel honored to "entertain the troops" by performing at the Armed Forces Retirement Home in the District (December 8). Of course, the highlight of the year is our annual performance on the Ellipse during the National Christmas Tree festivities. We'll know exactly when we will be at the Ellipse once the Park Service tells us our time slot. Check our [web page](#) for details about our performances. We update the calendar as dates are finalized.

We enjoyed reconnecting with members of our extended Steppers "family" during our reunion at the NVCWDA dance on September 21.

As always, we encourage anyone interested in joining the team to let us know. We need you! If you are currently dancing to country-western music and know the two step, waltz, cha cha, and swing, we can teach you the sequences for choreographed routines.

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## Membership Report

by Eric Vondra

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

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We currently have 157 members in good standing. This is down from last quarter, but the decrease is partially because I regularly drop anyone more than six months overdue. We have 28 members who are less than six months overdue, and we're hoping they will renew.

When you mail in your renewal check and membership form or bring them to a dance, they first will go to the Treasurer, Bill Wong, who will scan them, make the deposit along with the dance income, enter the amounts into the bookkeeping program, and send the scanned images to me, the Membership Director. I will update the membership database and the gmail account, if your email address has changed, and then I will print out and send you a letter along with a new set of date stickers for your card. If you have lost your membership card or if it's been through the wash a few too many times, you can simply write on your renewal form that you need a new card, and I'll send that along with the letter. We try to get renewals and new memberships processed quickly, but sometimes the procedure may take a few weeks. If you get a reminder email in the meantime, just ignore it. If you haven't gotten your renewal confirmation letter within a month or so, then contact me and I'll track it down.

We are relying on email more and more to stay in touch with members, so if you have an email address and haven't provided it yet, please email me ([membership@nvcwda.org](mailto:membership@nvcwda.org)) and I'll add you to our mailing list. Also, if your email changes, please send me the updated address. When you renew, your contact information is provided on the renewal letter for you to verify.

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## Treasurer's Report

by Bill Wong

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Our past Treasurer, Karen Johnson, drafted the Treasurer's financial report for fiscal year 2013 (June 1, 2012-May 31, 2013). I have approved the report with a minor re-categorization. We have filed the Annual State Corporation Commission report and the federal tax return 990-N for the fiscal year ending May 31, 2013.

We have stopped asking for voluntary contributions for NVCWDA temporarily while we make sure we are complying with the Commonwealth of Virginia's requirements for soliciting donations. (We plan to file for an exemption from the registration requirements.)

Every dance so far this fiscal year has returned a net profit thanks at least in part to actions implemented by the previous Treasurer, Karen Johnson, and also to our use of lower rent facilities, such as Lincolnia Senior Center.

For this fiscal year, the Association's funds increased by \$1,964.81 from \$8,045.12 on May 31, 2013, to \$10,009.93 as of September 11, 2013. Future anticipated expenditures include fees for filing the solicitation exemption and increased costs for our liability insurance. Below is the current quarterly report:

Category	Jun-13 Qtr	FY 2013	Jun-12 Qtr
<b>INCOME</b>			
Admissions	2,967.00	13,652.00	2,476.00
Donations Received	623.00	6,305.40	935.00
Interest Income	0.22	0.46	0.06
Membership Dues	846.00	1,728.00	252.00
Special Sales	0.00	232.94	20.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>4,436.22</b>	<b>21,918.80</b>	<b>3,683.06</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Bank Charge	25.90	39.95	12.00
DJs (1099 payee)	1,550.00	5,800.00	1,250.00
Donation to Others	300.00	0.00	0.00
Donations to Others	0.00	3,992.00	300.00
Dues, Fees, Licenses	25.00	759.80	0.00
Insurance	0.00	268.00	0.00
Phone	89.18	540.63	154.27
Space Rental	483.00	4,831.00	2,225.50
Supplies	0.00	290.51	0.00
Website	0.00	110.83	0.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>2,473.08</b>	<b>16,632.72</b>	<b>3,941.77</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>1,963.14</b>	<b>5,286.08</b>	<b>-258.71</b>

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

## October Birthdays

10/01 Bernie Vitale  
10/05 Joyce Leamon  
10/10 Robert Marlin  
10/11 Elizabeth Penaranda  
10/12 Sandy Hudson  
10/18 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 Pat Shrader  
11/10 Peter Andrews  
11/16 Ken Kearney  
11/26 Charles Drummond  
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  
12/23 Ron Harding  
12/25 Delbert Ashby  
12/25 Steven Swart  
12/27 Richard Humbert  
12/31 Don Barger

**Welcome  
New  
Member!**

Amanda Socci

## 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)

## Newsletter Sections on Website

[NVCWDA Dance Schedule](#) [Dance Event Calendar](#)

[Upcoming Steppers Performances](#)

[Looking for Lessons?](#) [How Do I Get There?](#)

**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.



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 \_\_\_\_\_