



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

CELEBRATING TWENTY FIVE YEARS OF TWO-STEPPING
25th
Anniversary
1986  2011

Vol. XXVI, No. 2

Official Publication

September/October 2011

President's Report

by Bo Marlin

Email: president@nvcwda.org

I know it's hard to believe, but another summer has come and gone. Hopefully, all your summer activities and vacations were safe, successful, and enjoyable. For those of you who may have taken a summer break from our dances to enjoy your activities, let me be the first to welcome you back. We've missed you.

Because of some schedule conflicts at the Accotink Church, we've had a couple of recent opportunities to hold our dances once again at Luther Jackson Middle School. To our pleasant surprise, we've had adequate air conditioning both times and the climate was comfortable (very much unlike some of the sweltering unpleasant experiences we've had there before). While twice in a row may not necessarily indicate a trend just yet, I'm cautiously optimistic that we've cracked the code on the air conditioning situation at the school. We currently have two more dances scheduled for Luther Jackson this year (the most notable being our Anniversary Dance on Sep 17), so if you've been avoiding our dances at Luther Jackson because of the heat, hopefully you'll rejoin us now that the air conditioning situation has been resolved.

Speaking of dance venues, we continue to search for other dance locations as a backup to the Accotink Church and Luther Jackson Middle School (and perhaps as a new primary location if it's really nice). While we enjoy our current locations, both have a few drawbacks. For example, while

Calling All Members!

If you have any ideas or leads on possible venues for upcoming Association dances, please contact one of the Board members.

Mark your calendars for the Anniversary Dance 9/17

Charter Members

James R. Birnbaum
Mae L. Canfield
Charles Drummond
Dorothy Garrison
William Garrison
John Gentile
Sandra Graves
Bill Hardwick
Marjorie C. Hoffman
Joyce P. Leamon
Bill Markland
Steve Martin

Jerry S. Oweis
Frank Scott
Dave Shrader
Pat Shrader
Robert H Smith
Dale Weed
Linda-B Woodworth

Life Members

John Gentile
Sandra Graves
George Jones
Bill Markland
Steve Martin
Pat McNees
George Morse, Jr.
Frank Scott
Pat Shrader
Dave Shrader
Robert H. Smith
Linda-B Woodworth

most all of our dancers enjoy the feel and sound of the wooden floor at the church, that venue is a bit on the small size when we have our normal attendance (and seating or mingling also get to be especially challenging). As I mentioned, the air conditioning at Luther Jackson has been a challenge during the summer months, but we're keeping our fingers crossed that we've worked our way through that. On rare occasions, both the church and school have been unavailable, leaving us no other choice but to cancel our planned dances—something we really hate to do. So if you know of a location in the general Fairfax area that has a large floor and adequate seating area, is climate controlled, and rents at a reasonable cost (say \$250-\$300 a night), please see Susan Scott or a Board member. We'll continue our search, but your assistance would be greatly appreciated. We'll also be discussing our primary dance venue for next year's dances at our next Board of Directors' meeting. Current options are the Accotink Church, Luther Jackson, or both, so if you have any inputs for us on either location (positive or negative), please see a Board member.

Our Association dance demonstration team, the Country Steppers, is looking

for some additional team members—especially a few more men. In addition to their normal practice sessions on Saturday mornings, they now have practice sessions on Wednesday evenings to better accommodate work and weekend schedules. And they've started up a "boot camp" for new, less experienced dancers as well. So if you've always wanted to join the Steppers and

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At Large	Open
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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 bimonthly 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 communications@nvcwda.org, Mail check to NVCWDA, P.O. Box 384, Merrifield, VA 22116-0384.

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Printed by Payne Publishers, Inc.
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Communications Report

by Eric Vondra

Email: communications@nvcwda.org

Being the one who stamps and sends out the newsletter every other month—with much appreciated help from my wife, Olga—I am struck by the large geographic area covered by our membership. Northern Virginia, of course, is well represented, but there are many people from the outer reaches of our area, including Maryland and DC, and even in far-flung states like North Dakota, North Carolina, Wisconsin, Nebraska, and California. It would be great to see some of the Charter members show up at the Anniversary Dance on Sep. 17 this year. You can find a list of Charter and Life members in this issue. I guess we're a little like the Marines—once an NVCWDA member, always an NVCWDA member. A lot of people keep up their memberships even after they've moved away. That's a tribute to the good times and good people that make up our Association.

I'm really looking forward to the oldies theme for that dance. I'm curious what people consider "oldies" nowadays. Two-Step and all the progressive dances probably all fall into that category, but then we dance those every time out, so they don't seem like oldies. Some of the old line dances we do date back to the early 90s or even the 80s, but there are others that seem to have been largely

forgotten. I wonder what were some of the very first line dances. Would anyone be interested in researching and writing an article for the newsletter on the evolution of Country line dancing? Remember how big it became in the 90s. Will Country Western dancing enjoy another resurgence like that? All it takes is one big hit, one movie (Urban Cowboy comes to mind), or some other trigger that reminds people that this is a part of our heritage and culture, and it is for good reason.

I also hope we'll hear some good oldies music to go with the dances. I just won't be completely satisfied unless I hear a Ray Price shuffle or a Buck Owens song. Now those are oldies! Good music is timeless, though, don't you think? Just think of all the remakes by the new stars that younger people don't even realize were done by the great ones years before.

Fall is perhaps my favorite time of year. I must say it took many years for me to feel that way, since like many kids, I never liked going back to school in the fall. In fact, I can still vividly recall the sinking feeling I had in the pit of my stomach when I see the back-to-school sales at the stores now. And they sure start them early, just like Christmas sales. Speaking of kids, let's encourage younger folk to attend the dances. They are the future of NVCWDA.

President's Report –cont. from page 1

perform for the public, now's your chance. See your Steppers Rep, Richard Chiu, or any other team member if you are interested or want more details.

For those who may not have heard, one of our DJs, Bernie Vitale, will be having back surgery in October and, therefore will not be able to DJ or instruct for us for the rest of the year while he recuperates. Please keep Bernie and Lydia in your thoughts and prayers as we wish him a successful surgery and rapid recovery.

Despite the summer activities, the attendance at our dances has been holding pretty steady over the summer months and we've seen a lot of new faces—both great developments. With regard to the new dancers, please remember that we were all beginners at some point and struggled to learn dances (some of us more than others). So, please be a good host and help our new dancers

when you see them struggling. A little encouragement and a "pointer" here and there can make all the difference in the world. Remember it's not about impressing them with how much you know (or think you know). It's about ensuring they get a firm foundation upon which to build their Country Western dancing skills and enjoy the experience at the same time.

As always, see you on the dance floor!

Newsletter Deadline

October 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)

Membership Update

by Karen Johnson

Email: membership@nvcwda.org

It would be wonderful to have something new and exciting to tell you about membership, but alas, the numbers are not much different than usual. The membership total stands at 184. However, 18 of those memberships have technically expired, and I should remove them from the roster. I dislike doing that immensely, so please check your expiration date (on the label attached to this newsletter or on your membership card) and renew today!

As always, I am open to any ideas you might have to increase membership and attendance at the dances. While membership may seem to be standing still, attendance at the dances has increased over the last year. Some of the changes that we have implemented are the result of suggestions made by members, and they have definitely contributed to this increase. So please let us know what you are thinking. Feel free to talk to me or one of the other Board members at a dance or send us an email. The email addresses are listed on the website and in the newsletter.

As embarrassing as it is to admit, there are still many members that I still have not personally met, even though my husband Marty and I have been members for several years! Please make a point of introducing yourself to me at the next dance, and I will be making a point of introducing myself to everyone I notice that I have not met. I would love to be able to put a name to every face I see at the dances. But the DJs play such great music that I have to dance, and I lose track of who is there and who is not. Please do not think I am ignoring you—it is just that I am having such a great time dancing, and I hope you are, too!



Special Events

by Patty Orndorff

The Patriotic dance in July was a success and the amount of red, white and blue was something to be proud of. I hope that we will be starting an NVCWDA tradition and will see our country's colors out in force each July for years to come. The ice cream social in August was fun and we hope everyone enjoyed the sweet treats. Thanks to the Board for the assistance.

Coming up next will be the Anniversary Dance on Sep. 17. We hope everyone plans to attend, especially any Charter members who are still in the area. The evening is going to be an oldies night theme and many old dances that we haven't done in a while will be revived. So brush up on some of your old favorites and come prepared to help the rest of us remember them, too. Please dress for the evening in your best western wear. The dance will be at Luther Jackson Middle School, and that allows for a larger crowd and a greater variety of dances going on simultaneously—just remember your dance etiquette and we'll be fine.

The Halloween dance is coming up in November and, as always, we are bound to have members dressing in some pretty entertaining and downright frightening costumes. Prizes are voted on by everyone so come and enjoy. Please also start thinking about the New Year's Eve Dance and what you would like to do to help make it another fantastic one. We need volunteers to help with decorations, food, setting up and taking down. We often have as much fun getting ready for the dance as we do attending it. After so many years it's a piece of cake to get it all together and everyone has a ball!

If you have any suggestions on a theme for an upcoming dance please let me know, as we want the dances to stay exciting.

NVCWDA 2011 DANCE SCHEDULE

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

Admission: Members: \$10 / Non-members: \$12 • Children under 18, with paying adult: \$5. PSDC Members: \$10.

Date	Event	Location	DJ	Lesson at 7:30		Lesson at 8:00	
				Instructor(s)	Dance	Instructor(s)	Dance
Sept. 3		Accotink UU Church	Fanelli	Kat Fanelli	True Blue Line Dance	Vitales	The Sway Couples Specialty Dance
Sept. 17	Anniversary Dance	Jackson Middle Sch	Brown	Eileen Scott	Hooked on Country/ Matador Line Dances	Steppers	Cotton-Eyed Joe/Schottische Specialty Dances
Oct. 1		Accotink UU Church	Handy	Karen Johnson	Fallsview Rock Line Dance	Inmans	Wooden Nickel Couples Specialty Dance
Oct. 15		Accotink UU Church	Brown	Gary Campbell	Down & Dirty Line Dance	O'Connors	Basic Two-Step

Monitor hotline and web site for advance notice on November dances and last minute changes.

Line Dances taught recently at NVCWDA dances:

Knee Deep (8/20/11)	Dizzy (6/4/11)
The Gilley (8/6/11)	Need You Now (5/21/11)
I'm Alive (7/16/11)	Wade in the Water (5/7/11)
Long Long Way (7/2/11)	Funky Cha Cha (4/16/11)
Crazy Foot Mambo (6/18/11)	Irish Stew (3/19/11)
Little Mockin' Bird Cha (6/4/11)	Bosa Nova (3/5/11)

Couples Dances taught recently at NVCWDA dances:

McGraw Stoll (8/20/11)	Smokey Places (4/16/11)
The Shadow (8/6/11 and 1/15/11)	Butterfly Waltz (3/5/11)
Tango with the Sheriff (7/16/11)	
Santa Fe Stroll (7/2/11)	
Wanderer (6/18/11)	
Six Pack Summer (5/21/11)	

Dance Schedule

September 2011



NVCWDA Dances Free Dance Lessons

7:30 - 8:30 p.m. Lessons
Open dancing 8:30 - 11:00 p.m.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Schedule changes can occur. Please contact dance organizers directly to confirm events.				1	2 Gail Smith - Nokesville	3 NVCWDA Accotink UU Church
4	5 LABOR DAY	6 Colvin Run Dance Ed and Gail	7 Dawn & Dean Cherry Hill	8	9 PSDC Vienna Am. Legion Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita Gail Smith - Nokesville	10 Swingin' Country at the Dance Factory
11 Stafford American Legion	12	13 Colvin Run Dance Ed and Gail	14 Dawn & Dean Cherry Hill	15	16 PSDC Vienna Am. Legion Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita Gail Smith - Nokesville	17 NVCWDA Luther Jackson Middle School Anniversary Dance
18	19	20 Colvin Run Dance Ed and Gail	21 Dawn & Dean Cherry Hill	22	23 PSDC Vienna Am. Legion Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita Gail Smith - Nokesville	24
25 Stafford American Legion	26	27 Colvin Run Dance Ed and Gail	28 Dawn & Dean Cherry Hill	29	30 PSDC Vienna Am. Legion Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita Gail Smith - Nokesville	

October 2011

Gail Smith has a Nokesville dance on Fridays - subject to change.
Email: letsgogigi@gmail.com for information and to receive updates.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Lessons by Eileen Scott: Monday night line dance classes at Springfield American Legion Post 176, Amhearst Avenue, Springfield, VA from 8:00-9:30 p.m. each Monday except holidays. Classes are on break from Aug. 16 - Sept. 26. Monday night classes will resume on Monday, Sept. 26, 2011. Fairfax County classes are held Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. and require registration with the Fairfax County Park Authority. Classes for the Fall session are being held at Lane Elementary School starting Sept. 20 and will continue for eight weeks. Contact Eileen for more information: escott5678@verizon.net.						1 NVCWDA Accotink UU Church
2	3	4 Colvin Run Dance Ed and Gail	5 Dawn & Dean Cherry Hill	6	7 PSDC Vienna Am. Legion Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita Gail Smith - Nokesville	8 Swingin' Country at the Dance Factory
9 Stafford American Legion	10 Newsletter Deadline 	11 Colvin Run Dance Ed and Gail	12 Dawn & Dean Cherry Hill	13	14 PSDC Vienna Am. Legion Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita Gail Smith - Nokesville	15 NVCWDA Accotink UU Church
16 Reston Dance (Reston Comm. Center)	17	18 Colvin Run Dance Ed and Gail	19 Dawn & Dean Cherry Hill	20	21 PSDC Vienna Am. Legion Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita Gail Smith - Nokesville	22
23 Stafford American Legion	24	25 Colvin Run Dance Ed and Gail	26 Dawn & Dean Cherry Hill	27	28 PSDC Vienna Am. Legion Jim and Peggy Dale and Anita Gail Smith - Nokesville	29
30	31 Halloween 					

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., Fridays - 7:00-8:00 p.m.
Bernie & Lydia Vitale
dancenl@comcast.net or call 703-430-2398

A Note from the Dance Director

by Kathy Fanelli

Wow time flies! I have been the dance director for two months now and it sure does not seem that long! I have been able to get to a lot more of the dances and I must admit it sure was a strange feeling going to my first dance where I was not the DJ. I kept feeling that I needed to leave the dance floor before the song was over! So now I have been able to hear a full night of all of our DJs and talk with many of you.

I think we can still use a bit of work on our dance floor etiquette, especially when we are at AUUC and the floor is crowded. We have added print outs on dance floor etiquette to the information at the table when you come in to each dance. Please take one at the next dance and let's all review our dance floor etiquette.

This month I am going to give you a behind the scenes look at how the DJs put together their playlists: what they are required to play, how they choose the rest, and what they would like you to know about the request list.

Each year when the DJs sign their contracts they are given music guidelines that they all agree to: they are told how many Two-Steps, Waltzes, Swings, line dances and specialty dances to play each hour and they are given tempo ranges as well. Every hour the DJ will play three Two-Steps, two Waltzes, two pattern (specialty) dances, five line dances, two Swing dances (East and/or West Coast and one Night Club Two-Step. They are told to avoid playing two of the same type of dance in a row and, whenever possible, are encouraged to call a couples and a line dance to the same song. They are also expected to concentrate on dances that have been taught at the Association. In addition, there is a limit on non-country music. These guidelines are all designed to get as many dancers on the floor as possible all night long. Whew! That sure is a lot to think about! To top it off, the DJs also get a steady stream of requests from the dancers.

Requests ...now that is a story in itself. The average number of songs a DJ plays per hour is 15, and that number is surprisingly accurate in most cases. On the country dance floor, however, it is a little less because of the time between songs as the DJ calls the dance, waits for the dancers to take the floor, and counts them in. So the average number of songs that will be played at one of our Association dances will be around 35. The DJ contract has used 15 songs per hour as its

guideline, though we already know that will be a little less. Now we also have to consider announcements and repeating the music for the lessons taught earlier, and if we have a special program that night more songs and dances have to be dropped. So when you make a request to the DJ please understand the conditions they are working under, and trust the DJ to read the crowd in deciding what songs to drop. On the up side, you should not have to request a Two-Step, Waltz, Night Club, El Paso, or Swing, unless you want to request a specific song, since these will always be played.

Now for the challenging part of the request list. Even at a sparsely attended dance we will have upwards of 30+ people, so that means there is not even time for one request per person! So understand that if you make multiple requests, the DJ will not be able to accommodate them all. Also please try to understand the DJ's choice of song for a particular dance. I know that many times we all want to do a dance to the song we learned it to—I am guilty of that one myself. "Back in the day," I would go to the VFW in Woodbridge every Wednesday night and do the same dances to the same songs week after week—and I loved it! It would be the same on the nights I went to Skinifatz. The same songs they played when teaching the dances there are what they always played for those dances. At the Association we have people from all over the area and the folks from Blackie's did not Tush Push to the same song they did at Skinifatz or in Southern Maryland or south at Houston's or at the Red Moon Saloon, etc. Maybe you are starting to get my drift. This is one of the many reasons that the DJs cannot always play "Neon Moon" for the El Paso, or "She's in Love with the Boy" for the Wooden Nickel, or "Born to Boogie" for the Tush Push. These are all good songs for those dances but not the only songs, and not the songs that everyone started out on with those dances. If you think about it, are we saying that no Cha-Cha music since 1990 is worthy of the El Paso?

We have very good DJs at our dances and they do the best they can to keep a consistent variety of music going so that the maximum number of people can "dance the night away!" They are all professionals and very capable of choosing music with the right tempo and beat for all of the dances. So please trust them to do their jobs. I hope I have given you a little more insight into what's involved in making our dances a success from the DJ's point of view. I will see you soon on the dance floor!

Planning Director's Report

by Susan Scott

It was good to see the excellent turn out at the last dance held at Luther Jackson Middle School. The air conditioning was excellent. We had a cool evening of dancing and a really great time. For those who weren't there- y'all come out, ya hear?

I am following up on all of the leads you have provided on possible alternate dance venues. The American Legion in Springfield is looking for banquets, which brings in more money for them. If you know of any possible venues in Fairfax (which is centrally located), please contact me. We need at least 2,500 square feet with a cost of \$300.00 or less

for 5 hours.

Please refer to our website (www.nvcwda.org) for our dance locations. They will continue to be held at both the Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church in Burke and Luther Jackson Middle School in Falls Church.

Please call our hotline at (703) 860-4941 or talk to a board member if you have suggestions of possible dance locations. Bring your friends, including those who are single, who want to exercise and have a good time.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

September Birthdays

09/06 Maria Mellott
09/11 Giovanni Sacco
09/15 Irshad Ali
09/17 Paula Ali
09/18 John Dever
09/18 George Morse, Jr.
09/24 Ella Broughton
09/24 Bob Orndorff
09/26 Shirley Staples
Bennington
09/27 Carmella Repaci
09/28 Jerry Oweis
09/29 Naomi Little
09/30 Kathy Fanelli

October Birthdays

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



Welcome New Member!

Rosa Marino

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

Looking for Lessons?

Check out Fairfax County ParkTakes (www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktates.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)

HOW DO I GET THERE?

Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church, From the Fairfax County Parkway (SR 7100): Take westbound Burke Lake Road (SR654) 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 (SR 645) 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-50W/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: letsagogigi@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 AyrHill 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.

Country Steppers Report

by Richard Chiu

Email: steppers@nvcwda.org

Under the new leadership of co-directors Joe Galletta and Teri Henry, the Country Steppers are closing out another busy summer. We started with a festive performance at the Celebrate Fairfax County Fair in early June. This annual event, at which we have performed for many years, always draws a good crowd. We were particularly pleased to have Mal and Linda Zerden with us for this event. Mal and Linda have been choreographers for many of our new routines and help to critique our styling and showmanship. We were delighted to get their favorable comments.

Other performances included NOVA Manassas Campus at Mary Louise Jackson Amphitheater in Manassas, VA and the 4H Fair at Frying Pan Park in Fairfax, VA—a joint show with the Bull Run Cloggers. Both events have helped us to draw new audiences and added to the public exposure for the team. The Steppers also performed at the Arlington County Fair in Arlington, VA and Freeman Lodge in Manassas, VA.

The Country Steppers are expanding in membership and in programming. In September, we will start to include Wednesday and Saturday practice options, Sunday boot camp and coaching sessions as needed. These new training opportunities are particularly helpful for newcomers, and old timers benefit as well.

The Country Steppers are always looking for new members with a basic knowledge of Two-Step, Waltz, Swing, and Cha Cha; singles or couples. Anyone wishing to join the team should contact a member of the Country Steppers, call

the NVCWDA Hotline (703) 860-4941, or email steppers@nvcwda.com.

Upcoming Stepper Performances

Sat., Sept. 10 Burke Centre Festival, Burke, VA, 10:30-11:00 a.m.

Sat., Sept. 17 The Hermitage, Alexandria, VA, 2 p.m.

Sat., Oct. 22 Ingleside-Rock Creek, Washington, DC, 2 p.m.

Sat., Oct. 29 Paul Springs Retirement Home, Alexandria, VA, 2 p.m.

Vice President's Report

by Bobby Orndorff

Here we are at the end of summer—where has the time gone? I hope everyone has had a great summer. Now that summer is gone, I want to see everyone at the dances. You may have been on vacation and missed them, but over the summer we have had some great dances. Thanks to everyone that came out in the heat to be with us to enjoy some great music by our DJs. We also learned several new dances from our great instructors. This summer we even had air conditioning at Luther Jackson(!).

Just a quick reminder that with fall coming, school is back in session. That means everyone needs to be on the lookout for the little ones who are walking to school or may not be watching for cars at the bus stops. Remember those big yellow things with flashing lights are school buses and we need to be especially careful when driving near them. Please watch out for the kids running for the buses. As always, I will see everyone on the dance floor, and keep on boot scootin'.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL/CHANGE FORM

Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association

PO Box 384

Merrifield, VA 22116-0384

01/2011

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 _____

Your email address will only be used for emergency broadcasts of event changes.

Membership Category

New _____ 1 year - \$18.00

_____ 2 year - \$30.00

Renewal _____ 1 year - \$18.00

_____ 2 year - \$30.00

Membership # _____

Make check payable to NVCWDA

Cash ☐ Check # _____

Please check your preferences on the following questions:

Do you want to have your name and phone number published in the Membership Directory? Yes ___ No ___

Would you be willing to help with some of the activities during the year? Yes ___ No ___

Would you like your birthday listed in the Newsletter on your birthday month? Yes ___ No ___

★ New members are entitled to one free admission to a regular dance.

Today's date _____

Board Meeting Summary

The NVCWDA Board of Directors meets every other month. The latest meeting was held on August 3. The BB&T account balance was \$3,061.61 as of that date, per the bank's statement and \$2,737.55 per our Quickbooks program (the difference being uncashed checks, etc.). We currently have 184 active members. There was a discussion of consistency of music played and dances called and reference to the DJ contracts requiring a certain mix of music, which the Dance Director will ensure is adhered to. She is also encouraging the playing of different songs to common dances to provide more dancing variety and stressing dance floor etiquette, which is especially important when we have dances at the smaller dance floor at the church. In the next six months, dances will be held at Luther Jackson Middle School on the following dates: Sep. 17, Nov. 19, Dec. 17, Jan. 21, and Feb. 4. Air conditioning has been turned on the last few times at the school, which has helped greatly. Members will be encouraged to seek out additional venues for dances. The new Country Steppers director is Teri Henry. The practice scheduled has been modified to include a beginners "boot camp" and Wednesday practices, which may help attract more members. The August 20 dance will be an ice cream social. The Sep. 17 dance is the Anniversary Dance, for which personal invitations to charter members will be sent out. The Board is still pursuing purchase of a wireless microphone for dance instruction. Desk duty was also discussed; per the

Association Bylaws, a Board member is required at the desk and must sign for the funds taken in. All Board members serve desk duty on a rotating basis. However, we are looking at having volunteers assist when possible. The next Board meeting is scheduled for October 5.

2011-2012 Board Members



Left to Right: Karen Johnson (Membership), Donna Dennis (Treasurer), Susan Scott (Planning), Eric Vondra (Communications), Kathy Fanelli (Dance), Bobby Orndorff (Vice President), Patty Orndorff (Special Events), Bo Marlin (President) Not Shown: Pat McMurray (Secretary), Richard Chiu (Steppers), Charlie Pierce (Past President)

NORTHERN VIRGINIA COUNTRY-WESTERN DANCE ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 384
MERRIFIELD, VA 22116-0384

Address Service Requested

NVCWDA HOTLINE
703-860-4941

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info@nvcwda.org