



COUNTRY WESTERN DANCE CONNECTIONS NEWSMEMO

96.01

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1996

FROM THE PREDITOR

The 'New Year' edition will be a joint January/February issue - not exactly 'new' in the year but we'll have to settle for 'first' in the year. That circumstance is the result of a variety of factors. A major influence is a shortage of anything to print. River City results arrived but waiting for several other items that one had been led to believe would be forthcoming proved rather less than worth the wait.

I had hoped someone might drop a line about Worlds - I know Canadians went, worked, danced, partied, but no more and nothing more specific than that - not much of a story. Both print and conversational comments by other kindred newsletter spirits and some limited personal experience lead me to believe there must be a close relationship between a newsletter editor and the Maytag repairman. Lonely may not be the appropriate term but it is all too often easy to wonder if there really is anyone out there.....is there?.....anyone?

Other factors come into play as well. A little down time for the computer is not new - or regular - but when it comes, it does drag things out a little further. Just love those machines.

What might best be described as a combination Rip Van Winkle - take a break - holiday time - semi-retirement effect also came into play. With the December issue done and Christmas coming on, it was time to start thinking about and preparing for the season. The Smith clan accomplished a couple of firsts, one just barely. With our eldest turning 22, we spent our first Yule ever with just the four of us (and survived - that's the just barely part), and spent it away from any family home by parking at Fairmont for a week.

Back to the real world and back to work took its toll in time - and then there was the quiet isolation. With no contact to the CW world - a two way street to be sure, and there was none either way - it was easy to spend time on other things. Dance classes starting up after Christmas offered a bit of a refocusing in the right direction - and then a couple of calls to indicate that there was life out there. Sure was a nice rest - felt good - could get to be a habit - and the phone bill was great. 'Nuff said on that stuff.

The 1996 year was beginning to look like a good one in terms of Canadian competitions for dancers - and that usually equates to good times for the rest of the CW community in terms of entertainment, workshops, social events, and so on. At one point there was the potential for six events. In

sequence they were set for Calgary (Independent), Calgary (UCWDC), Saskatoon (Independent), Red Deer (Independent), Medicine Hat (CWDI), and Edmonton (UCWDC). Alas, the independent Calgary event and Saskatoon have disappeared from the calendar and the Medicine Hat event seems to be in question.

The Teacher Talk material this month comes from the NTA and Kelly Gellette. Remember that submissions to this column are welcomed and will be acknowledged, giving credit where it is due. Be a contributor.....write an item.

An initial step toward the development of a Code of Ethics appears in this issue. The need and advantage of having a code have been raised often in the past and this is a means of taking the issue a step toward reality. The primary application of such a code would be for teachers but the general concepts and some of the specifics are appropriate for everyone in the CW community. Reasonable and responsible conduct along with pleasant and positive interactions between people is a practice that will serve one well in almost any situation

Think 'ANNUAL'. Add 'BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY'. Augment with 'PARTY'. Remember that the fifth annual get-together for the Association is set to take place June 7 to 9. Mark the date on your calendar and plan to be there. There are some matters of importance to the CW community that need to be discussed. You should take part.

RIVER CITY RESULTS

Results from the Third River City CW Dance Festival held in Edmonton November 11 to 13:

TEAM COMPETITION

Classic Division:

Silver Spur Dancers, Edmonton, AB

1st-Solo; 2nd-Partner; 2nd-Choreography;

2nd-Showmanship; 2nd-Technique; 2nd-Costume

Country Pride Dance Club, Red Deer, AB

1st-Partner; 1st-Choreography; 1st-Showmanship;

1st-Technique; 1st-Costume

Showcase II:

- Saskatoon Silver Spurs, Saskatoon, SK
1st-Overall; 1st-Choreography; 1st-Showmanship;
1st-Technique; 1st-Costume
- Country Cuz Its Fun, Calgary, AB
2nd-Overall; 2nd-Choreography; 2nd-Showmanship;
2nd-Technique; 2nd-Costume

COUPLES COMPETITION

Division : Classic Junior Youth

1. Corry Vandenbrink/Katie Treherne, Calgary, AB 1st-2Stp;
1st-Wal; 1st-Cha; 1st-ECS.
2. Josh Gifford/Teri Hanmore, Calgary, AB 2nd-2Stp;
2nd-Wal; 2nd-Cha; 2nd-ECS.

Division : Classic Junior Primary

Placing 1st - 5th

- } Chris Kathol/Jordan Berg, Calgary, AB 1st-2Stp; 1st-Wal;
1st-Cha

Division : Classic Silver

Placing 1st - 5th

- } Stan Needham/Victoria Schmidt, Edmonton, AB 1st-2Stp;
1st-ECS

Division : Classic IV

1. Mike/Bella Trowbridge, Colorado Springs, CO 1st-2Stp;
2nd-Wal; 1st-Cha; 1st-WCS
2. Kirk Hammer/Nancy Jacques, Calgary, AB 3rd-2Stp; 1st-
Wal; 1st-ECS; 1st-TTS
3. Robert Laskey/Cathy Wise, Calgary, AB 2nd-2Stp; 3rd-
Wal; 2nd-Cha; 2nd-WCS; 2nd-TTS
4. Mike Bohne/Sandi Brondgeest, Red Deer, AB 3rd-Cha;
3rd-WCS

Also placing 1st - 5th

- } Francis Lukion/Vicki Robson, Edmonton, AB 5th-2Stp;
4th-Cha; 4th-WCS; 3rd-ECS; 4th-TTS
- } Gordon/Debbie Stubbe, Edmonton, AB 4th-2Stp;
5th-Wal
- } Robert Sebo/Sharon Fleming, Kelowna/Surrey, BC
2nd-ECS
- } Pat/Delores Cuthbertson, Stettler, AB 3rd-TTS

Division : Classic III

1. Lyle Granger/ Marilyn Demyen, Regina, SK 2nd-2Stp;
1st-Wal; 1st-Cha; 1st-ECS

Also placing 1st - 5th

- } Larry Cook/Beverly Atterbury, Saskatoon, SK 1st-2Stp;
1st-WCS; 2nd-ECS

Division : Showcase Junior Teen

Placing 1st - 5th

- } Myles Munroe/Trista Berg, Calgary, AB 1st-2Stp;
1st-Wal; 1st-Solo
- } Rob Engel/Amber Peterson-Engel, Saskatoon, SK
2nd-2Stp; 2nd-Wal

Division : Showcase III

1. Terry Williams/Angie Stallard, Saskatoon, SK 1st-2Stp;
1st-Wal; 2nd-Cha; 1st-WCS; 1st-Pol
 2. Kim Degagne/Simone Sali, Calgary, AB 2nd-2Stp;
2nd-Wal; 1st-Cha; 2nd-ECS
 3. Wayne Ronald/Penny Norem, Calgary, AB 3rd-2Stp;
4th-Wal; 3rd-Cha; 1st-ECS
- Also placing 1st - 5th
- } Andre Bock/Debbie Korol, Calgary, AB 4th-2Stp; 3rd-Wal

Division : Showcase II

1. Doug Davidson/Stephanie McPherson, Calgary, AB
1st-2Stp; 1st-Wal; 1st-ECS; 1st-Pol

Division : Just Wanna Dance Sapphire

Placing 1st - 5th

- } Kelly Serge/Karen Hilton, Calgary/Strathmore, AB
1st-2Stp; 1st-WCS; 1st-ECS; 2nd-TTS
- } Steve Oviatt/Linda Boisvert, Calgary, AB 2nd-2Stp;
2nd-ECS; 1st-TTS
- } Michel/Suzanne Audy, Jasper, AB 4th-2Stp; 2nd-WCS;
3rd-TTS
- } Dale Guenette/Debbie Lumsden, Fort Saskatchewan/
Edmonton, AB 3rd-2Stp

Division : Just Wanna Dance Emerald

Placing 1st - 5th

- } David Zwaal/Linda Smiley, Calgary, AB 1st-2Stp;
1st-ECS; 1st-TTS
- } Craig McLeod/Linda Taube, Calgary, AB 2nd-2Stp;
3rd-ECS
- } Stan Needham/Dawna Liske, Edmonton/Devon, AB
3rd-2Stp; 2nd-ECS

Division : Pro Am Female Advanced Adult

Placing 1st - 5th

- } Jo Jo Belmonte/Terry Bjorgan, Calgary, AB 1st-2Stp;
2nd-WCS
- } Patrick Bonnell/Debra Lavack, Calgary, AB 2nd-2Stp;
3rd-WCS
- } Jo Jo Belmonte/Monique Rouleau, Calgary/Laguna Hills,
AB/CA 1st-Wal; 1st-Cha
- } Doug Davidson/Carol Violette, Calgary, AB 1st-WCS

Division : Pro Am Female Novice Adult

1. Jo Jo Belmonte/Susan Dixon, Calgary, AB 4th-2Stp;
3rd-Wal; 1st-Cha; 2nd-ECS

Also placing 1st - 5th

- } Doug Davidson/Wendy Hales, Calgary, AB 2nd-2Stp;
1st-Wal; 1st-WCS
- } Dwayne Hryniw/Susan Babich, Edmonton/Everett, AB/WA
3rd-2Stp; 2nd-Wal; 3rd-WCS
- } Doug Davidson/Armstrong Dana, Calgary, AB 1st-2Stp;
2nd-WCS; 1st-ECS
- } Patrick Bonnell/Loralie LePoudre, Calgary, AB 5th-2Stp;
4th-Wal; 4th-WCS

Division : Pro Am Male Novice Adult

Placing 1st - 5th

- } Dan Boisvert/Sherry Tovell, Edmonton, AB 1st-2Stp; 5th-WCS
- } Brian Roy/Stephanie McDonald, Edmonton, AB 2nd-2Stp; 1st-WCS
- } Brent Harris/Karen Filiatrault, Edmonton/St Albert, AB 3rd-2Stp; 2nd-WCS
- } Wally Hawryluk/Cheryl Mayes, Spruce Grove/Edmonton, AB 5th-2Stp; 1st-ECS
- } Ron Roy/Cindy Paisley, Calgary, AB 4th-2Stp
- } Bert Bush/Sherry Tovell, Edmonton, AB 3rd-WCS
- } C. Michael Huffman/Sherry Tovell, Edmonton, AB 4th-WCS

Division : Classic Swing (Generic)

1. Richard Tymco/Cindy Paisley, Calgary, AB
2. Randy/Rhonda Shotts, Calgary, AB

Division : Strictly Swing (Generic)

1. Gary McIntyre/Rachael Anderson, Saskatoon/Calgary, SK/AB

T² : Teacher Talk - Instructor Information

NTA is the source of our material for this issue.

BEGINNERS: When dealing with beginning dancers, you must realize they would not be in your class if they knew much - or perhaps anything - about dancing. You may look at what you have been teaching and feel you haven't taught very much. It is a sign of good instructors when their students can do what has been presented and do it well. It is not how much material you have introduced but how well your students dance that is important.

As instructors, know your material well. Keep your students coming to class by helping them become good dancers, not by the amount of material you cover. Students' biggest complaint is that too many teachers show too much. It is not how much you teach but how well you get it across to the students and how well they can do it.

SET GOALS FOR STUDENTS: An efficient instructor takes the responsibility to maintain and develop students' interest by giving them goals to accomplish. Goals for Students include: to perform dancing skills satisfactorily; to learn current dances; to be at ease and enjoy dancing; to have the necessary knowledge of music, school figures, and lead and follow.

Teachers do not teach. They merely set the stage for people to learn. A teacher functions as a guide .

FOLLOW THROUGH: Follow through is a term that is used to describe the smoothness needed for many muscular accomplishments. In golf or tennis, a player must follow through to make his swing become an even, smooth stroke through the air. Only then will he be able to hit the ball straight through the air. In dancing also, follow through is used to describe smoothness, which is the main requisite of graceful movement. To achieve correct follow through, you must keep your feet in a closed parallel line when walking forward or back. Practice in front of a mirror. Exaggerate the follow through by actually brushing your foot by the forward (or back) foot.

GUEST INSTRUCTORS: If you have confidence in yourself as a teacher, you will (and at least occasionally should) welcome guest instructors. They can spice up a lesson. Sometimes someone else can get across a point in a few different words, a point you may have been working on for weeks. It is advantageous to have students see different styles. Don't be afraid of losing your students (everyone stands to gain from sharing, cooperation, and mutual respect).

TERMINOLOGY AND STANDARDIZATION OF LANGUAGE:

Use of a common language or at least recognizing and interpreting differences in terms lends credibility to the CW dance form. Beginning this month, a page or two of Dance terminology will be included with each issue of the 'Memo'.

IN CONSIDERATION OF A CODE OF ETHICS

A code of ethics may also be known as (AKA) a Code of Ethical Conduct, Professional Conduct, or Professionalism. The need for such a code for CW teachers has been raised from time to time, including at the Instructors' Forum in 1994. Some further comment and discussion have taken place since then but nothing formal or organized has come out of any of the commentary. A couple of offers have been made to put something together but that has not yet occurred. With that in mind, the following is a compilation of comments, suggestions and ideas from a variety of sources that support the general concept and philosophy of a code. Some are generic to any code of good behaviour while others are more specific to CW dance, and more specifically, to CW dance instructors. Consider the following and make suggestions for changes, additions, or deletions. Any such code would be aimed more specifically at teachers but should be acknowledged and followed by the CW community in general. Read and respond.

Some think being a professional simply means being paid for or making a living at something. This is a narrow definition. To be real professional means more. It relates to a profession based on advanced study and specialized training in a field with recognized standards, and following some proper and accepted form or style of conduct.



RIVER CITY DANCERS



Spring 1996

Volume 1 Issue 1

EDMONTON IS READY FOR SPRING

COUNTRY DANCE WORKSHOP

6 Thursdays in a Row
March 7, 1996

Rob and Sherry Tovell

TIME: Doors at 7:00

COST: \$60.00 PER COUPLE

PLACE: Cook County Saloon
80th and 103rd St.
Edmonton, Ab

MUST BE PRE-REGISTERED
MINIMUM 10
MAXIMUM 20 COUPLES

Thanks to the large response to our February 17th Workshop, we are now full, but starting March 7 each Thursday Evening we will have a pre-registered workshop for 6 weeks

Westcoast Swing

- * Body movement and connection between partners is a beginning point for this dance
- * Swing styling for Ladies and Men
- * How to achieve that "Look"
- * Footwork, foot positions and a cluster of moves to make you a star on any dance floor

ALL REGISTRATIONS AND
INQUIRIES

Rob and Sherry Tovell
9705 87th Avenue
Edmonton, Ab T6E 2N3
403-439-5773



"You are Invited"

March 9, 1996 to Curly's Corral

(Yellowed Motor Inn - 149th & Yellowhead Hwy)

2:00 to 4:00

◆ All instructors, teachers, dancers. We need your input. Country dancing in Canada has grown a tremendous amount but there has been a change in "direction" which should be discussed. There will be an open forum to cover the following -

- ◆ Changes in the Dance Community
- ◆ Changes in the Night Club Scene
- ◆ Festivals
- ◆ Our Responsibility for the Development of New Dancers

- ◆ We Listen with our **Eyes** not our Ears
- ◆ We Speak with **Expressions** not our voice
- ◆ We Turn with our **Shoulders** not our feet
- ◆ We Dance with our **Hearts** not our bodies

PARTY! PARTY! PARTY! PARTY!

FOLLOWING THE AFTERNOON FORUM

Curly's Corral (Yellowhead Inn)

Doors 8:00

Music: *Larry Naughton*

MARCH 9, 1996

Please join us for some fun! We will be having a River City Fundraiser with a Jack & Jill, for both the Beginning Dancer and Intermediate Dancer. Let's shake out those cobwebs and get ready for a great year of Dancing !!!!!!!
Special invitation to Red Deer, Calgary, Medicine hat Saskatoon. and everyone in between.

We miss you!!!

Ethics refers to morality of behaviour and conforming with an accepted standard of behaviour. It deals with right and wrong.

The goal of the instructor should be development of the potential of students to the fullest extent possible, recognizing the situation and interests of each individual. Teaching should facilitate and support learning, and be done in a way that respects the rights, dignity, and expectations of students.

Contractual obligations with students and employers are to be honoured. The contracts of others are to be respected so that nothing is done to weaken the position of another or the bring about the removal or dismissal of another from a contract or place of employment, especially for personal advantage or animosity.

Exclude criticism of other instructors or methods in class. Avoid damaging the confidence of pupils in other instructors. No criticism of another instructor should occur unless the problem has been discussed with that individual and there has been a chance to make corrections. A broadly and generally acceptable forum or process is necessary to allow for any positive, constructive, or professional criticism. Any right or need to criticize must be tempered by the responsibility to do it in an acceptable manner.

Knowledge and skill are acquired through training and experience. Every instructor has the responsibility to gain and maintain an adequate and appropriate level of expertise for the students and programs affected. That includes the responsibility to continually review personal competence and effectiveness and to make such changes and improvements as are necessary.

Avoid actions that will negatively or adversely affect yourself, others, or the sport itself. Always behave in a manner that will promote, dignify, and earn respect for the Country Western dance form and its attendant community of dancers and teachers. That includes a need and responsibility to cooperate and work with others for the mutual and common good.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

None to be found - help us out. How about something on Canadians at Worlds? Many other topics are also open and available - take the step - be a contributor.

Something To Think About: Points To Ponder

-->>The tongue and the words that roll off it have the potential to be positive or negative - the speaker determines whether they are constructive or destructive.

-->>Success is knowing the difference between cornering people and getting them in your corner.

REMEMBER

AGM V And Forum IV

**June 8 (7-9), 1996
In Red Deer**

ACWDA WILL CELEBRATE ITS 5TH BIRTHDAY THIS YEAR. THE ASSOCIATION, COUNTRY WESTERN DANCE, AND THE CW COMMUNITY HAVE SEEN A LOT OF CHANGES AND COME A LONG WAY IN THAT PERIOD OF TIME. WE NEED TO KEEP WORKING, AND WORKING TOGETHER, TOWARD THE POSITIVE PROMOTION OF THIS THING OF WHICH WE ALL SUPPORT AND PARTAKE.

INITIAL PLANS ARE TO CONSIDER AN EXTENDED EVENT THAT WOULD SEE SOME WORKSHOP OR FORUM ACTIVITY FRIDAY EVENING, SATURDAY, AND PERHAPS SUNDAY. SOCIAL ACTIVITIES WOULD TAKE PLACE FRIDAY AND SATURDAY EVENING. THE AGM AND ANNUAL INSTRUCTORS' FORUM WOULD OCCUR SATURDAY.

IT WOULD BE MOST USEFUL TO FOLLOW UP AND BUILD ON THE MARCH 9TH 'DIRECTIONS' FORUM IN EDMONTON. WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER.

WE WOULD LIKE TO USE THIS EVENT TO BUILD ON OUR BEST AND TO POOL OUR POTENTIAL FOR ONE WEEKEND TO WORK TOWARD OUR MUTUAL BENEFIT AND TO SUPPORT OUR CHOSEN SPORT.

CAN YOU
**OFFER SOME SUGGESTIONS?
**LEAD A FORUM SESSION?
**RUN A WORKSHOP?
**OTHER?

PLEASE CONTACT ANY MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE
ASAP WITH YOUR SUGGESTION OR OFFER

NTA Teaching Manual-Syllabus Available

The NTA teaching manuals are now available for \$48.00 Canadian or three for \$135.00 'over the counter'. Shipping costs vary but all three can be mailed parcel post for about \$6.00 or shipped Greyhound Express for \$6.75. Contact Jerry Smith at 146 - 2nd Street NW, Medicine Hat, AB, T1A 6J3; phone 403-527-6852; fax 403-526-2018.

EVENTS CALENDAR : WHAT'S HAPPENING , WHEN, AND WHERE

The EVENTS CALENDAR is offered as an open, non-partisan listing available to members and non-members alike. Its purpose is to provide notice of dance related events provided to us or that we become aware of for the benefit of our membership and any other readers of NEWSMEMO. It also offers the function of a clearing house to planners of events to check other future events for potential conflicts of dates.

MARCH 2, 1996: ACWDA executive meets in Red Deer

MARCH 2, 1996: Surrey is home to the Blue Ridge Dancers' Spring Workshop which features Tony and Yvonne Gutsch. Call Gloria at 604-576-9744.

MARCH 23-24, 1996: Dance Bash '96 offers workshops in Kelowna with Randy/Rhonda Shotts plus Ted Scarpino/ Kelly Dupuis, and others. Call Tom or Deb at 604-765-5411.

APRIL 12 - 14: Calgary Country Dance Stampede V is set to go, offering social, competitive, and workshop activities. Call 403-252-5525 for information

April 20: The Peace Country Western Dance Club offers its 3rd Annual Spring Workshop and Dance in Grande Prairie. Call Dave at 403-538-1710

MAY 4, 1996: ACWDA executive meets in Red Deer.

JUNE 7-9, 1996: ACWDA's 5th AGM and dance is scheduled along with the 4th Annual Instructors' Forum. The AGM and Instructors' sessions plus the annual dance will be held Saturday June 8. Preliminary planning includes tentative workshop sessions for Friday evening, part of Saturday, and part of Sunday. Mark the date(s) on your calendar and plan to attend. Don't miss in '96. It's ACWDA's 5th birthday. Come and be part of the party.

JULY 18-20, 1996: The 10th Canadian National Square & Round Dance Convention comes to Alberta in the city of Edmonton. Call Allan or Norma at 403-466-3564

AUGUST 16-18, 1996: The 4th Annual Red Hot Festival goes in Red Deer with the same big venue for competition, social, and related activities. Call 403-346-5484 for details.

AUGUST 23-25: The Medicine Hat Dance Festival offers competition, workshop, and social activities. Contact Matt Kozenko at 403-893-3741.

NOVEMBER 8-10: River City CW Dance Festival IV goes in Edmonton with competition, workshops, social stuff, and more. Call Rob or Sherry at 403-439-5773.

***** ZONE REPS:

NORTHERN: Karen Gorman - 403-539-4201
EDMONTON: Gord Villumsen - 403-487-3477
CENTRAL: Rob Ironside - 403-346-5484
CALGARY: Ian Munroe - 403-640-9123
SOUTHERN: Diane Smith - 403-527-6852

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS:

President: Jerry Smith - 403-527-6852
Secretary: Kathy Koebel - 403-343-6501
Treasurer: Cathy Estabrooks - 403-475-8033
Membership Secretary: Kathy Koebel - 403-343-6501
The Executive Officers and the Zone Reps form the Board of Directors or the Executive of the Association.

EVENT DIRECTORS:

Member directors / events are listed for easy access and communication by all members. Listings are in order of occurrence.

River City Festival: Rob/Sherry Tovell - 403-439-5773
Calgary Dance Stampede - Garry Nanninga - 403-283-3149
Red Hot Festival: Rob/Bonnie Ironside - 403-346-5484

NEWSMEMO is a publication of the ACWDA and belongs to its members. Opinions expressed are those of the writers and the ACWDA does not necessarily share the views stated in the various comments, letters, or submissions printed. Name, address, and phone number must be provided with all items for publication. Names will be withheld upon request.

Advertising space is available in the NEWSMEMO. Costs for members range from \$5.00 for a business card to \$25.00 for a full page. Contact the editor for more specific information.

The end of November is the tentative editing date for the next NEWSMEMO. If you have events or items that you would like to appear in an upcoming issue, please send them as soon as possible to Jerry Smith, Editor, 146 - 2nd Street NW, Medicine Hat, AB T1A 6J3; phone 403-527-6852; fax 403-526-2018.




Dancing Shoes

- Ballroom/Swing Shoes
- Evenin' Star Pro Dance Boots
- Practice Shoes

By appointment

Dorothea Thielmann
Manager

Ph: (403) 488-4022
Fax: (403) 482-1826



*****Keep the 'Memo' Events column informed of events*****
You, your event
and all those who might attend
stand to gain
if people know about it.