



ALBERTA COUNTRY WESTERN DANCE ASSOCIATION

COUNTRY WESTERN DANCE CONNECTIONS NEWSMEMO

95.09
SEPTEMBER 1995

ANNUAL MULTI-COLOUR MEMBERSHIP 'R AND R' EDITION

COLOUR INDICATES MEMBERSHIP STATUS

The "R and R" may stand for 'reminder and renewal' or for 'recall and recruit', but the colour of the issue received does indicate membership status according to current records. **BLUE** signifies that 1995-96 dues have not yet been paid and that this will be the last issue received unless the membership is renewed. **YELLOW** symbolizes a bright welcome to former members and others interested in Country Western dance to take out a current membership in the ACWDA and see what's happening. **PINK** suggests one is 'in the pink' or in good health with dues paid for this year's membership and eligible to receive the current issue of Strictly Country music magazine with this issue of Newsmemo. Any current, renewed, or new membership is eligible for the magazine so get your applications in as soon as possible.

As previously stated, this is according to current Association membership records. If there appears to be an error, please contact your Zone Rep, the Membership Secretary, or the Editor as soon as possible so that corrections can be made.

FROM THE PREDITOR

Late, later, and later - everything seems to be behind schedule. This edition of the newsletter is much later than it should be. Canada Customs has finally released the our shipment of NTA manuals after a three week delay. Strictly Country magazine, which arrived just last week for our distribution, is well over a month late; the editors of SC are attempting to ensure that it doesn't happen again. With luck, the Fall season will offer the chance to get all things back on track and running as intended. Here's hoping!!!

Congratulations to everyone involved with planning, arranging, and running the recent 'Red Hot' in Red Deer. By all appearances it was a success and those who came seemed to enjoy themselves and all that was offered. It was a 'builders' or developmental event for CW dancers and served that purpose very well. It reached out to include the broader, full spectrum of Country dance. Good work! Do more! This is will promote and advance CW dance in Alberta. We hope to have the results of the competition available to us for the next issue.

A second event was running less than two hours away from the Red Hot scene. The situation was unfortunate but seemingly unavoidable. The event known as the Canadian

Finals Country and Western Dance Festival has run alternate years since 1989. Aftermath and fallout from the 1993 event, including statements by the organizers, provided reason to believe there would be no more 'Canadian Finals'. Better communication might have avoided the head on competition. Competition isn't necessarily a bad thing but as popular as CW dance is, we don't have that big a market in Alberta.

The two events relate to different circuits and very different philosophies. a number of the proponents of each side wouldn't support the other in any case, even if the dates didn't conflict. Regardless of the 'politics', there are good reasons to try to work toward having everyone going in more or less the same direction and working for the same common cause, the advancement of CW dance. That is one of the underlying and continuing goals of the Association. All things taken into consideration, the odds of a resolution of this specific situation aren't all that great. On the other hand, the old adage of 'nothing ventured, nothing gained' needs to be kept in mind. Dancers, directors and the CW community stand to gain every time we can open doors and make our dance style more available to more people - and avoid any 'bloodshed' among ourselves that detracts from our image.

It's nice to see that a number of US events are recognizing how the difference in our dollars makes it more difficult for Canadians to go south. As has been noted on prior occasions, Dennis and Carol Waite (Chicagoland), Dan/Leigha Eshner and Beth Emerson (Gateway), and the Seattle Fall Fling have made individual offers to accept Canadian dollars at par for certain aspects of their events (each one varies). Thanks to them for this gesture.

SHORTS / BRIEFS FROM AUGUST EXECUTIVE MEETING

- >Plans are in place to consider the use of conference calls rather than more meetings if extra meetings are required.
- >Bruce Smith will be replaced at least temporarily by Kathy Koebel as membership Secretary.
- >Zone elections need to be completed.
- >June 8th (7-9) is retained as the 1996 AGM (with the extended dates intended for workshops)

RED HOT FESTIVAL DOES IT

The Red Hot Festival moved to the frozen February climes of 1994 to the warmer, if not red hot, temperatures of August

1995. The organizers planned a country event that would showcase Country Western dancers and then went out and put one on for all to enjoy. The majority of the dancing was CW as it should have been but there were some interesting additions. Country dancing in the form of clogging was offered with both lessons and demos available; square dancing appeared as a demo. An demonstration of native dancing was included as well. There was something for just about everyone. The venue was big and spacious and added to the enjoyment of the event.

T²1² : TEACHER TALK - INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

See the 'From the Editor's Desk' column in this issue. It is reprinted with permission from the NWCWDA Newsletter.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Nobody wrote - again.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT: POINTS TO PONDER

See your goal

Understand the obstacles

Clear your mind of doubt

Create a positive mental picture

Embrace the challenge

Stay on track

Show the world you can do it.

-->>Luck is a matter of preparation meeting opportunity.

-->>Mind what you say or you may say whatever comes to mind.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Some membership cards remain to be distributed and should be included with the October 'Memo'. Current membership is at 122 and increasing.

SPONSORS AND DONORS OF AGM '95

ACWDA would like to again recognize and thank the following contributors to the 1995 AGM and Dance.

Patronize these businesses when possible and express our thanks to them when you are there.

Advance Engineered Products - two duffel bags

Alberta Boot - see G. Bilyck Prof. Corp.

Associated Cabs - two hour limousine service*

Cadillac Jack's Country Dancers - assorted prize package
- \$100.00 toward 50/50 draw

Country Magazine - two subscriptions

Country Pride Dance Club - assorted prize package
- \$100.00 toward 50/50 draw

Dance Corral - three subscriptions

Gary Bilyk Professional Corporation - \$100.00 gift certificate
IGA

Lammle's Western Wear - gift certificate

Killians - dinner for two*

Mark's Work Wearhouse

Red Deer Lodge - one night accommodation and brunch*

Save-On Foods

Step Back In Time - carriage ride for two

Wal Mart

Western Express Magazine - one subscription

Wild Rapids Water Slide - two day passes*

* Part of the 'Ultimate Door Prize'

NTA TEACHING MANUAL-SYLLABUS AVAILABLE

The new order of manuals has finally cleared customs and copies are now available for \$48.00 Canadian or three for \$145.00 'over the counter'. They will be available in Red Deer at the Kelly Gellette workshop and in Edmonton in November, subject to supply. They can be mailed but mailing fees will vary depending on the manual (they vary in weight), how many, and where - from \$2.30 to 5.50 each and a maximum of \$5.50 Parcel Post for the set anywhere in the west. If you can't wait to pick one up and wish to order now, call, fax, or write and we'll work something out. Contact Jerry Smith, 146 - 2nd Street NW, Medicine Hat, AB, T1A 6J3, phone 403-527-6852; fax 403-526-2018.

COME PARTY WITH THE MUSTANG DANCERS AT THE SEATTLE FALL FLING OCTOBER 19-23

Bus fare is only \$120.00

with a \$50.00 deposit

only a few seats left

Reserve by calling Jim or Steph
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Dorothea Thielmann
Manager



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RIVER CITY C.W. DANCE FESTIVAL



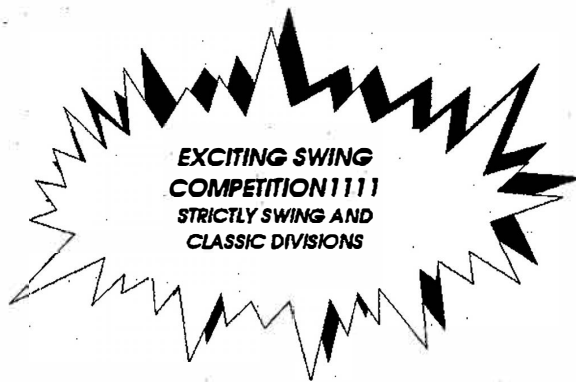
790/CFCW

Edmonton's
Third Annual
Fully Sanctioned
Event!!



**Open Dancing, Workshops, And Fun all Weekend
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
November 10,11,12, 1995**

**A Separate Swing
Event**



**EXCITING SWING
COMPETITION!!!!
STRICTLY SWING AND
CLASSIC DIVISIONS**

Couples Competition

Divisions	<i>Classic - I,II,III,IV,Gold,Silver Diamond Adv Diamond Novice,Jr. Pri., Yth, Teen Showcase - I,II,III,Gold,Silver,Diamond Adv Diamond Novice, JrTeen</i>
Dances	<i>- 2-Step, Waltz, Polka, Triple 2-Step, Cha Cha, Pony, Schottische, East and West Coast Swing</i>
Juniors	<i>- Classic - Finals Only - Choice as above Showcase - Two Step, Waltz, Solo</i>
Just Wanna Dance	<i>- Two Step, Triple 2-Step, Swing</i>

**1995 U.C.W.D.C. RULES AND SCORING
FORMAT USED FOR ALL
COMPETITIONS**

**THIS IS A 3RD YEAR UCWDC WORLDS
EVENT. PLACEMENT POINTS WILL BE
AWARDED.**

HOTEL & RESERVATIONS

**The Coast Terrace Inn
New Venue !! Bigger Workshops**

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At a Rate of \$76.00 CDN
Double Occupancy

**For Registration Information Contact: Rob and Sherry Tovell
9705-87 Avenue, EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA T6E 2N3 1-403-439-5773**

KELLY GELLETTE WORKSHOP



**KELLY GELLETTE WILL BE IN RED DEER
AT BALMORAL HALL
(57 BELL STREET, NORTH OF THE BOWER MALL)
SEPTEMBER 29, 30, AND OCTOBER 1, 1995
TO PROVIDE WORKSHOPS ON THE
NTA TEACHING MANUAL AND SYLLABUS.
SHE WILL DO WORKSHOPS ON
BASIC FUNDAMENTALS - FRIDAY EVENING
LEVEL I - SATURDAY & LEVEL II - SUNDAY.**

**WORKSHOPS ARE \$25.00 EACH OR ALL THREE FOR \$70.00
ACWDA MEMBERS PAY \$20.00 PER WORKSHOP**

CERTIFICATION TESTING WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THOSE WHO WANT IT.

These workshops are presented for but are not restricted to CW dance teachers.
They are open to anyone wants to be a better CW dancer.

Sponsored by Country Pride and ACWDA

For more information call Rob at 403-346-5484
or Jerry at 403-527-6852 (Fax 403-526-2018)



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

In the collegiate world there is an expression, "publish or perish". In essence, what this means is that each professor must write (articles, pamphlets, books, etc.) in order to keep himself in the forefront of his profession (and to keep his job). In order to accomplish this, he must continually strive to expand his knowledge base by learning all he can about new developments within his area of expertise. A similar concept applicable to dance instruction could be known as "learn or burn". In other words, teachers need to keep learning in order to keep pace with the times and with their students.

Unfortunately, people can often be reluctant to change. Some teachers are still out there teaching the same old things using the same tired methods they have used for the past umpteen years. This is not good. The state of our art form is continually evolving; teachers who don't keep up are soon going to be out of touch. For example, consider how C/W waltz was performed and taught five years ago compared to how it is being performed and taught today (we don't just do our two step moves in 3/4 time anymore). Now consider line dancing. How many line dances go in and out of style in the course of a few months? You line dance instructors know about this all too well. Students today have many more choices than they used to regarding their sources of dance instruction and if they don't like what you have to offer, they can easily go elsewhere (there are numerous workshops happening all around the country, dance videos galore, and everybody who has had more than three lessons seems to be teaching these days).

What would you do in this situation: Let's say you're a West Coast Swing instructor and one of your students has obtained information from another source and comes to you and says "you teach run, run, run on counts 3&4 - what do you think about side, cross, back?" What are you going to tell this person if you haven't kept up and you have no idea what she is talking about? The way you handle the situation is important. A poor response can send you down in flames as a respected dance instructor.

Don't get me wrong, it's okay not to know something. Most students will understand you are only human. Handling a situation by telling a

student "I don't know but I'll find out for you" goes a long way in maintaining your credibility and the student's respect for you as an instructor. They know when they're getting the "snow job". A favorite saying of mine seems appropriate here - *a good reputation is much easier to maintain than to rebuild.*

Here are some thoughts I have about dance teachers. First off, "real teachers" never stop learning. Real teachers aren't closed minded to learning new or different techniques. Real teachers aren't so proud that they won't be seen attending another teacher's workshop for fear they may lose face with some of "their students" who may also be attending that same workshop. Real teachers don't brush off things they don't understand by rationalizing "that's not country". And finally, real teachers don't attempt to shield their students from other sources of knowledge. Let's face it, who among us knows everything?

Randy and I attended Robert and Laureen's West Coast Swing workshop the weekend of June 10th and were pleasantly surprised to see how many instructors made time to attend the session and hear what a couple of the nation's best instructors had to say. This is good! This is what we need more of in the Northwest!

In summary I would like to suggest to the teachers out there to do yourselves and your students a favor - let your students know you care about them by keeping up with new and exciting developments in the dance world. Go to a workshop or two, pick up a new video, listen to some new philosophies or have a jam session with some fellow instructors. Be open minded and remember, the good teachers are the ones who are learning all the time.

Reprinted courtesy of NWCWDA
Newsletter and Rhonda Shotts.

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.

SEPTEMBER 24: Central Zone ACWDA holds a meeting at Capers Pizza at 12:00 noon. Call 403-356-5484 for info.

SEPTEMBER 24-27: Dave Getty does a workshop at the Derrick Club in Edmonton on the 24th with Jim and Stephanie McDonald, and Rob and Sherry Tovell (Sept 24). Privates are available. For bookings / details, call Connie at 403-433-8147.

SEPTEMBER 29-30 & OCTOBER 1: Workshops in Red Deer with Kelly Gellette will continue the NTA teaching syllabus material. Plans are to revisit Basic Fundamentals, get into Level I and II workshops, and provide testing for all three. Sponsored by Country Pride and ACWDA. Call Rob at 403-346-5484 or Jerry at 403-527-6852 for more information.

OCTOBER 13 - 15: The Northern Interior Dance Festival in Prince George offers workshops, demos, and a dance. Call Bill or Debbie at 604-564-9373 or Peggy Jo at 604-563-7895.

OCTOBER 13-14: The Central Alberta Rhythm Cloggers present workshops in Red Deer with Susan Woods from Cranbrook. Call Ida at 403-347-8098 or Len at 403-746-2250.

OCTOBER 21: The Alberta Ballroom Division of the Canadian Dance Teachers' Association presents the CDTA Alberta Cup, an International and American style ballroom competition. Call Lawrence at 403-285-1020 or Michel at 403-251-0847.

NOVEMBER 4: 'Spirit of the West' 1995, the second annual Line Dance Competition and Dance is on at Tsawwassen. Call Brian at 604-921-9791.

NOVEMBER 10 - 12: River City CW Dance Festival III is scheduled for Edmonton, with competitive, social, and workshop activities. Contact Rob or Sherry at 403-439-5773.

JANUARY 26-28, 1996: Keep an eye out for information on the second annual CCWDC festival in Calgary.

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 1996: Calgary Country Dance Stampede V is set for April 12, 13, 14, 1996, offering social, competitive, and workshop activities. Call 403-252-5525 for information.

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. Tentative workshop sessions are planned 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.

JUNE 14-16, 1996: Toon Town Shake Down, Saskatoon's 1st Annual Swing and Country Western Dance Event gets initiated. Call Gary at 306-241-5857 or 306-242-0025.

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.

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 September 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 403-528-2018.



ALBERTA COUNTRY WESTERN DANCE ASSOCIATION

COUNTRY WESTERN DANCE CONNECTIONS

NEWSMEMO

95.06
JUNE 1995

FROM THE PREDATOR : PERSONAL PATTERN

This edition is quite late and may result in combining editions later. Apologies for any inconvenience or missing items but every once in awhile, something comes along to remind one of an important reality or two. One of those realities is that there are things in life more important than dancing and its related activities — and that they have to come before dancing et al.

Two such major events brought that home to us quite recently. We had returned (late Sunday June 4th) from the AGM in Red Deer and I was planning to get a few things sorted out at my real job. That would allow me to get down to the newsletter and cleanup details from the meeting beginning on Thursday. Wednesday I was in Calgary to look at a computer linked phone notification system for our school and watched the Elbow River threatening the parking lot of the building we visited. On the way home, there were flood warnings out for Medicine Hat. Our house is on the 100 year flood plain but has never been threatened in its 82 years of existence and the water apparently didn't reach that high in the major flood in 1902. Not to worry.

Famous last words. Thursday brought more ominous warnings, including some we didn't hear until after the fact that talked about water to the two metre level at our address. The more serious predictions apparently were soon reduced (and before we were even aware of them) but we were still in the evacuation area. Our bedrooms are in the lower level or basement of our house and beginning Thursday morning, Diane and the girls started packing. I came home at noon and we stayed at it long into Friday morning. Gas was shut off Thursday afternoon and power and water were to follow at any time deemed necessary.

I went to work briefly Friday morning and then came home again. It is amazing how much stuff one (or more correctly, a male and three females - and no one is necessarily worse than the others) can have in 1100 sq ft. Even more amazing is where you find space to put it in the rest of the house. Needless to say, things were piled deep wherever there was any space. I ended up back at work for awhile Friday afternoon as our school was being set up as a Disaster Centre. The girls left for two nights but Diane and I stayed in the house.

The story has a happy - and dry - ending, at least for us. The water crested at about 10 metres above normal - and the river is normally already high at this time of year - but we got no water or sewer backup. Our house is still in disarray but it is all dry. We can't find lots of things, including materials re AGM, the newsletter, and more, but it's all dry. On the upside, we found a few things we hadn't seen in years and used the opportunity to give the downstairs carpets a good cleaning.

Others weren't so lucky. Some had to move - or lose - their

belongings, and both eventualities occurred. Water and/or sewer damage were common in many homes and a number have since been condemned. Water was 1 ½ metres deep inside the major arena and water buried a 2 ½ metre high fence at the ball diamond. Not a pleasant time for many people.

Throughout all of this, the better side of people showed through again and again. People helping people, often people they didn't know - moving, sandbagging to fend off the river, supporting the sandbaggers, opening their homes, helping to clean up. Neighbours, citizens at large, people from out of town and out of province, Hutterites, the military, all helping in any way they could - not the stuff headlines are made of, but this was the real story. Maybe the world isn't quite on its way to Hell in a hand basket yet. Given the chance or the circumstance, the great majority people are still pretty wonderful.

The second event in reality therapy sort of followed the first. The river had crested late Friday and it looked like the worst was over for us. Diane had a previously arranged family function in Calgary and it was decided that she might as well attend. She left Saturday afternoon and I stayed home to catch up on things, including the Newsmemo. Sunday was to be the day but I was awakened at 6:15 by another concern. Our youngest was in need a very quick trip to the Alberta Children's Hospital relating to her ongoing condition. The rest of the day was spent on travel and getting her settled into the ACH for surgery. Diane was already in Calgary and I was now less in the proverbial kennel for having stayed home in the first place.

Back to work Monday, 2 ½ days of meetings, discovery that the cooperative style centre where we practice and teach has had sewer backup, and another week is gone. Sunday again, Diane is at a clogging workshop at Innisfail, and a supposedly quick do-it-yourself plumbing project nearly accomplishes what the flooding South Saskatchewan didn't - a fun Father's Day. And in all that time, dancing and dancing stuff didn't get to the top of the agenda. Yes, Virginia, there are other things in life.

AGM ITEMS:

Special thanks go out to Central Zone and more specifically, Kathy Koebel and the Dance Committee who organized AGM '95 and made it possible - thanks to Jim Rudy, Rob Habkirk, Charlene Cryderman, Genny Nelson, Ivan Elgersma, and Teresa Dann for all the work they did behind the scenes. Thanks also go to Connie Maitland and Elizabeth Art - without their assistance and cooperation the workshops with Jeff Bartholomew would not have been possible.

Thanks to all the sponsors of the event as a they helped support the AGM and the Association. Donors will be listed in

a later edition so that members can patronize them.

Attendance did not meet expectations but those who came gained from their support of the activity. The instructors' workshop and the two dance workshops with Jeff B were excellent. The forum for instructors and the AGM were constructive and the dance offered all in attendance a good time

CALGARY COUNTRY DANCE STAMPEDE RESULTS

Time and space factors hampered the inclusion of these results in the May newsletter. a total of 69 couples and 4 teams competed. Here are the listings as a provided.

UCWDC COUPLES COMPETITION

Division: Classic Junior Youth

1. Corry van den Brink/Katie Treherne, Calgary, AB 1st-2Stp; 1st-Wal; 1st-ECS; 1st-Cha Cha

Also placing:

Chris Kathol/Jordan Berg, Calgary, AB 2nd-2Stp

Division: Showcase Junior Teen

1. Myles Munroe/Trista Berg, Calgary, AB 1st-2Stp; 1st-Wal; 1st-Solo

Division IV Classic

1. Kevin Hendrickson/MJ Bippes, Calgary, AB 1st-2Stp; 2nd-Wal; 2nd-WCS; 1st-TTS
2. Eric Allen/Jennifer Jackson, Liberty Lake, WA 2nd-2Stp; 4th-Wal; 1st-WCS; 1st-ECS; 2nd-Cha Cha
3. Wayne Amabile/Rhonda Bauer, Colorado Springs, CO 1st-Wal; 5th-WCS; 1st-Cha Cha
4. Richard Blakney/Donya Heaton, Calgary/Okotoks, AB 3rd-2Stp; 3rd-Wal; 4th-WCS; 3rd-ECS; 4th-Cha Cha
5. Robert Laskey/Cathy Wise, Calgary AB 5th-2Stp; 5th-Wal; 3rd-Cha Cha; 2nd-TTS

Also placing:

Doug Bezpaiko/Cindy Knibbs, Calgary/Lethbridge, AB 4th-2Stp; 3rd-WCS; 2nd-ECS
Francis Luklon/Vicki Robson, Edmonton, AB 5th-ECS; 4th-TTS
Dan Bloxam/D'arcie Rogers, Calgary, AB 3rd-TTS
Gordon Stubbe/Debbie Priebe, Edmonton, AB 5th-Cha Cha

Division III Classic

1. Robert/Connie Bowers, Littleton, CO 1st-2Stp; 1st-Wal; 1st-ECS; 1st-Cha Cha
2. Shawn Pearce/Karla Mcgee, Regina, SK 2nd-2Stp; 2nd-Wal; 1st-WCS; 2nd-Cha Cha
3. Lyle Grainger/Marilyn Demyen, Regina, SK 3rd-2Stp; 3rd-Wal; 2nd-WCS; 2nd-ECS; 3rd-Cha Cha

Division III Showcase

1. Terry Williams/Angie Stallard, Saskatoon, SK 2nd-2Stp; 3rd-Wal; 2nd-WCS; 2nd-Cha Cha; 1st-Pol
2. Bart Gilbert/Kimberly Erickson, Saskatoon, SK 1st-2Stp; 4th-Wal; 1st-WCS; 2nd-Pol
3. Grant Albrecht/Sherry Towell, Calgary/Edmonton, AB 4th-2Stp; 2nd-Wal; 3rd-WCS; 1st-Cha Cha

Also placing:

Dwayne Tulik/Elizabeth Art, Edmonton, AB 3rd-2Stp; 1st-Wal
Garth Lissinna/Wendy Falkingham, Saskatoon, SK 5th-2Stp; 4th-WCS
Harold/Barb Oberhammer, Saskatoon, SK 5th-Wal

Diamond Novice : Showcase

1. Ian/Mickey Munroe, Calgary, AB 1st-2Stp; 1st-Wal; 2nd-ECS; 1st-Cha Cha
2. Wayne Ronald/Penny Norem, Calgary, AB 2nd-2Stp; 2nd-Wal; 1st-ECS; 2nd-Cha Cha

Division II Showcase

1. Dwayne Hryniw/Denise Noble, Edmonton, AB 1st-2Stp; 1st-Wal; 1st-WCS; 3rd-ECS; 1st-Pol
2. Patrick Bonnell/Cindy Paisley, Calgary, AB 2nd-2Stp; 2nd-Wal; 1st-ECS; 1st-Cha Cha
3. Frank Weatherby/Pam Tower, Calgary, AB 3rd-2Stp; 3rd-Wal; 2nd-ECS; 2nd-Cha Cha

UCWDC TEAM COMPETITION

1. Saskatoon Silver Spurs Dance Team, Saskatoon, SK 1st-Technique; 1st-Showmanship; 1st-Choreography
2. Country Cuz It's Fun, Calgary, AB 2nd-Technique; 2nd-Showmanship; 2nd-Choreography
3. Coeur d'Alene Country Unlimited Dance Team, Coeur d'Alene, ID 3rd-Technique; 3rd-Showmanship; 3rd-Choreography
4. Country Pride Dance Club, Red Deer, AB 4th-Technique; 4th-Showmanship; 4th-Choreography

JUST WANNA DANCE COUPLES COMPETITION

Division : Emerald

1. Ty Langton/Jeri Santarossa, Montrose, BC 2nd-2Stp; 1st-WCS; 1st-TTS
2. Mike Sali/Cheryl Houcher, Calgary, AB 3rd-2Stp; 1st-ECS; 3rd-TTS

Also placing:

Ken/Monique Wells, Sherwood Park, AB 1st-2Stp
Kerry Hutchings/Leslie Middleton, Mapleridge/Burnaby, BC 4th-2Stp; 2nd-TTS
Derek Carter/Tanya Shaw, Calgary/Black Diamond, AB 2nd-ECS; 4th-TTS
Wally Hawryluk/Lisa Lee, Spruce Grove/Edmonton, AB 5th-2Stp
Thomas/Linda Watts, Calgary, AB 2nd-WCS
Jon DeWalt/Kathy Morgan, Elkwater, AB 5th-TTS

Division : Sapphire

1. Andre Bock/Debbie Korol, Calgary, AB 1st-2Stp; 2nd-ECS; 1st-TTS
2. Albert Tailleux/Dawn Lillehei, Calgary, AB 2nd-2Stp; 1st-ECS; 2nd-TTS
3. Gary Bilyk/Lynne Perrault, Calgary, AB 2nd-WCS; 5th-ECS; 3rd-TTS

Also placing:

Terry Grant/Deborah Lumsden, Edmonton, AB 3rd-2Stp; 1st-WCS;
Kirk Hammer/Nancy Jacques, Calgary, AB 5th-2Stp; 3rd-ECS; 4th-TTS
Terry McPherson/Charlene Aitken, Banff, AB 4th-ECS; 5th-TTS
Brent Potratz/Sandra Bryan, Burnaby, BC 4th-2Stp
Doug Price/Linda Baisvert, Edmonton/Calgary, AB 3rd-WCS

Division : Ruby/Emerald Cowgirl

1. Doug Davidson/Loralie LePoudre, Calgary, AB 1st-2Stp; 1st-WCS; 1st-TTS

Also placing:

Rob Ironside/Cindy Glover, Red Deer/Penhold, AB 2nd-2Stp;
2nd-ECS

Patrick Bonnell/Maddy Anderson, Calgary, AB 1st-ECS

Division : Ruby/Emerald Cowboy

Placing:

Dean Nistor/Judy Foster, Regina SK 1st-2Stp; 1st-TTS

Division : Double Ruby

1. Don Kovaks/Denise Noble, Vancouver, BC/Edmonton, AB
1st-2Stp; 1st-WCS; 1st-ECS

2. Doug Davidson/Laura McLean, Calgary, AB 2nd-2Stp; 2nd-
WCS; 1st-TTS

3. Michael Slowski/Allison Billington, Edmonton/Calgary, AB
3rd-2Stp; 3rd-WCS; 3rd-TTS

Also placing:

Curtis Buxton/Cynthia Dola, Calgary, AB 2nd-TTS

T² : TEACHER TALK - INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

We are happy to welcome Ian Munroe of Prairie Winds Country Dancing back to the 'Teacher Talk' column after what seems too long an absence. He has been busy but was quick off the mark on this column. Someone at the Instructors' Forum in Red Deer asked about exercises and this was faxed to me four days later. Thanks Ian.

Are warm up exercises a regular part of your class? Probably not. Most instructors want to get started with their lesson right away and perhaps you feel that warmups waste valuable teaching time. This is a natural assumption because instructors generally tend to do a lot of dancing and the muscles that are used to dance are conditioned.

However, I think we tend to forget that most of our students, especially beginners, are sedentary creatures (couch potatoes) whose only exercise is our dance classes. For these people, warm up exercises are essential to prevent aches and pains the next day.

Here are some simple exercises that can be done in about five minutes at the beginning of class:

1. Standing up straight, lower your chin to your chest. Slowly roll your head around in a circle five times clockwise. Repeat going counterclockwise.

2. With your head up straight, slowly turn your head as far as you can to your left and hold for five seconds. Repeat to the right.

3. With the arms crossed in front as if you are in a cuddle (wrap), gently swing them straight out to the sides with your palms down. Swing them back to the crossed position, then swing them out again but with the palms up. Repeat 10 times.

4. With the arms extended straight out to the sides, gently twist your torso to the right and then to the left. Twist as far as you can without causing pain. Repeat 10 times.

5. Reach over your head with your right arm and gently lean your torso to the left to stretch the ribs on the right side. Hold stretch for 10 seconds. Repeat with the left side.

6. Repeat exercise #1 except with the torso instead of the head.

7. Standing up straight, gently lift one knee as high as you can, then the other (to avoid injury, put the first leg down before you lift the second one - chuckle!!). Repeat 10 times.

8. Standing with one leg forward, gently swing the back leg up in the front and back down 10 times. Switch legs and repeat.

9. Standing with the legs shoulder width apart and keeping your back straight, slowly lean your torso forward as far as it can go to stretch the back. People with bad backs should not go any more than 90°, others can go all the way down if they can. Hold the stretch for 10 seconds and then slowly raise upright.

10. At the end of a class you should stretch your calves and Achilles tendons by standing 2 feet from a wall. Place your hands on the wall at shoulder height. Extend one leg back as far as you can while keeping both heels on the floor. Do not let the back heel raise up. Slowly bend your front knee a few inches and hold for 20 seconds. Switch legs and repeat.

****Note:** Follow these exercises in the order they are presented here. They are designed to move a muscle group first to warm and loosen them, and then to stretch them after they are loosened up. Never bounce a stretch but instead, apply slow, constant pressure and concentrate on relaxing the muscle being stretched. Never stretch to the point of pain as this is a sign of muscle damage. Only stretch to the point of mild discomfort. There are many more exercises and stretches you could do, but these are sufficient for most social dancers. Have fun with them and remember, SLOW AND GENTLE.

ADVERTISEMENT

ATTENTION TEAMS: The Mustang Dancers of Edmonton have 104.9 metres of royal blue coloured Princess satin for sale. The normal cost for this fabric is \$10.00/m. We would sell the lot for \$680.00 - once you figure this out, it is quite a saving. The fabric is 100% polyester. We also have 35.55 metres of 6 inch fringe that sells for \$5.65/m. We would like to sell the lot for \$140.00. The colour of the fringe is light blue but I have found that the fringe dyes very well. The reason we would like to sell the material is we want to stay away from the blue colour as we already have a team here that wears the blue colour. Anyone interested call Stephanie McDonald at 403-457-1447.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS: 1994-95 memberships expired as a AGM '95 was called to order. Those taken out by new members since January 1, 1995 are good to AGM '96. Renewal or new membership applications should go to your Zone Rep or the Membership Secretary. Forms for your own renewal and for your recruitment of new members are enclosed.

PLEASE NOTE THAT INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS ARE NOW \$20.00 with reduced rates for additional members in the same household. Some applications have come in that will give members associate status or that cannot be accepted. Membership cards and notes re corrections regarding membership status will be included with the next issue.

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JULY 1: Dave Getty is in Calgary for Int & Adv Two Step, Beg/Int Waltz, Int WCS and UCWDC rules. Call 403-269-5466

JULY 2-5: Dave Getty is in Edmonton for the Two Step school figures (July 3) and for privates. Call Connie at 403-433-8147.

JULY 14 - 16: Chinook City Cloggers present Dave Roe for a Stamp and Stomp Weekend in Calgary. For details call Lucy @ 403-938-3577; Steve @ 403-271-6381; Trish @ 403-242-0462.

AUGUST 18 - 20: The Red Hot Dance Festival's 3rd annual event will be moved to a warmer summer schedule. Competition, workshops, and some great social activities will fill the weekend with fun. Call Rob or Bonnie at 403-346-5484.

AUGUST 19 - 20: The Canadian Finals Country & Western Dance Festival runs in Edmonton. Call 403-477-5590 for information.

SEPTEMBER 1 - 3: The 7th Annual Country Dance Convention brings workshops, demos, a 'showcase' and two evening dances to Kelowna. Call 604-763-6237 for more information.

SEPTEMBER 24-27: Dave Getty does a workshop at the Derrick Club in Edmonton with Jim and Stephanie McDonald, and Rob and Sherry Tovell (Sept 24). Privates are available. For bookings or details, Call Connie at 403-433-8147.

SEPTEMBER 29-30 & OCTOBER 1: Workshops in Red Deer with Kelly Gellette will continue the NTA teaching syllabus material. Plans are to revisit Basic Fundamentals, get into Level I and II workshops, and provide testing for all three. Sponsored by Country Pride and ACWDA. Call Rob at 403-346-5484 or Sherry at 403-527-6852 for more information.

OCTOBER 13 - 15: The Northern Interior Dance Festival in Prince George provides workshops, dance demos, and a dance. Call Bill or Debbie at 604-564-9373 or Peggy Jo at 604-563-7895

NOVEMBER 10 - 12: River City CW Dance Festival III is scheduled for Edmonton, with competitive, social, and workshop activities. Contact Rob or Sherry at 403-439-5773.

1995 SQUARE, ROUND, AND CLOG WEEKENDS

Holiday Ranch at Innisfail sponsors Square Dance Weekends July 21-23, July 28-30, August 18-20, and September 8-10. Round Dancing will be held August 25-27. Cloggers go at it August 11-13. Call Phil/403-346-5001 or Marie/403-728-3464.

JANUARY 26-28, 1996: Keep an eye out for information on the second annual CCWDC festival in Calgary.

APRIL 1996: Watch for Calgary Country Dance Stampede V.

JUNE 7-9, 1996: ACWDA's 5th AGM and dance is scheduled along with the 4th Annual Instructor's Forum and Workshop. Mark the date and plan to attend.

ZONE REPS:

NORTHERN: Karen Gorman - 403-539-4201
EDMONTON: Gord Villumsen - 403-487-3477
CENTRAL: Rob Ironside - 403-346-5484
CALGARY: Gary Bilyk - 403-243-9770
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: Bruce Smith - 403-842-6605
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River City Festival: Rob/Sherry Tovell - 403-439-5773
Calgary Dance Stampede - Garry Nanninga - 403-283-3149

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The end of June 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.

Dorothea Thielmann
Manager

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ALBERTA COUNTRY WESTERN DANCE ASSOCIATION

SECOND ANNUAL INSTRUCTORS' OPEN FORUM

Sponsored by
Alberta Country Western Dance Association
Red Deer, AB
94/05/28/9:00 - 12:10

The Second Annual Instructors' Open Forum had 31 registrants in attendance including 7 non-ACWDA members. Several members and non-members sent regrets for non-attendance due to other commitments.

The meeting opened with participants given the opportunity to introduce themselves and offer their thoughts as to the past, present, and future direction of forums such as these and their interest in taking part. Agenda items were invited from the floor.

There was a brief review of the past year beginning with the summary of the First Annual Forum held last June. Work toward some of the priorities coming out of that meeting had already begun. A syllabus for the 'upbeat' two step has not yet been prepared and is still needed. Rob Tovell and Jim McDonald will be approached again. ACWDA supported and co-sponsored a 'Theory and Technique' workshop for teachers and dancers by Randy Shotts in Red Deer in October and offered an open forum for instructors in cooperation with the Red Hot Dance Festival in February. The Association also sponsored two teaching workshops by Dan. Eshner/Beth Emerson (Teaching Methods: Tools for Teachers) and Bill Robinson (Material Sequence for Beginning Instruction) in cooperation with the Calgary Country Dance Stampede in April. The workshops appear to have been well received (combined attendance of 120+) and feedback suggests that there is interest in having more of this type of session. A budget will be established to allow for such expenses.

Communication was discussed with a review of the merits and difficulties of establishing a separate newsletter as opposed to using a column or a page in the monthly 'Newsmemo'. There was strong support for working within the ACWDA framework and using the existing newsletter with the appropriate additions. Development of a contact list or instructor registry was suggested. Continuation of the concept of open forums at the major Alberta events to provide for the opportunity of meeting, sharing, and communicating with each other was supported with a recommendation that an agenda be put together and made available prior to the sessions. Scheduling to avoid conflict with other sessions, activities, and competition at festivals continues to be a problem and a number of suggestions were made, including the possibility of trying breakfast or lunch meetings. Nothing seemed to meet all the needs and

organizers were left with the request to do the best possible.

Interest was expressed in workshops, and a variety of formats were discussed. It was felt that each and any of the forums should include some element of workshop presentation. Local or regional workshops, sessions at the dance festivals (as in Calgary), and daylong or weekend workshops specific to instruction were all seen as important. Support, co-sponsorship, or full ACWDA sponsorship were seen as viable alternatives. Organizers of events need to be aware of the willingness of ACWDA to consider entry into 'joint ventures' relating to workshops, especially relating to teachers and teaching. Instruction is the starting point for CW dancers and this is an area where some standards, standardization, and good basics will bring more credibility and recognition to CW dance, the CW dance community, and those who support and promote them.

The need, uses, and advantages of a code of ethics for instructors were raised. Rob Tovell volunteered to put together a draft proposal for consideration at a future session.

Items relating to standardization and terminology were introduced with a 'test' on dance positions. Each participant was given 16 pictures and was asked to name the position (with no peeking at anyone else's answers, of course - Rob Ironside and Jerry Smith had to demonstrate two that were not clear from the picture, resulting in some debate over who got to lead). Discussion followed as answers - or lack thereof - were compared and then related to the NTA terminology for dance positions (closed, open, wrap, side by side, promenade, skaters, challenge, pretzel, and their basic variations. It was agreed that the NTA terminology should become the guideline, preferably being used and at least being introduced during teaching through AKA (Also Known As). Two exceptions arose in that NTA 'challenge' is more likely to be referred to as 'shine' and NTA 'pretzel' will be referred to as 'hammerlock' with 'pretzel' used as an AKA.

Consideration of the more general dance terminology had started at the annual forum held last year. Three versions were provided and there was a recommendation to bring forward a single draft for this year. Permission was requested from and granted by Kelly Gellette to use NTA

Dance Positions, Dance Terminology and a sample of the NTA syllabus at this year's forum. The NTA Dance Terminology was presented for consideration on the basis of the time and effort already put into its development as well as its wide distribution and use. The matter of its similarity to the examples offered last year, and the apparent waste of time in trying to 'reinvent the wheel' by taking time to write out something that would end up being virtually the same were reviewed. The NTA Dance Terminology was accepted and approved for use as standard terminology. Changes or variations will be dealt with through use of AKA and working with NTA for revisions as required.

Establishment of a common general curriculum appropriate for the beginning or basic instruction of all CW dancers is a continuing matter of interest and concern. The leadership and effort of NTA in the development of a teaching manual was introduced and discussed (several participants are NTA members, most are not). A copy of Manual I was circulated at the meeting and evoked considerable interest. All participants were provided with two handouts for Two Step, one relating to Level I of the NTA manual and a second with a different format. Discussion revolved around the possibilities of adopting the NTA system and/or syllabus and what course our relations with NTA should take. Mention was made of other alternatives such as the Dance Country's Country Western Dance Syllabus (B Durand / D Harris). It was agreed that serious consideration should be given to the NTA syllabus as the succeeding levels become available and that a recommendation be brought forward to the next meeting.

Initial contacts have already been made with NTA regarding formal relations between our organizations. The goals of the ACWDA Mission Statement include "communication and collegial working relations with other instructors and associations relating to instructors" and the ACWDA goals to develop standards and offer leadership to provide some uniformity in teaching are very similar to those of NTA. The expression of an interest by ACWDA to work with or in association with NTA was met with a very positive response from Kelly Gелlette and John Elliot, NTA NW Zone rep. Similar feelings were expressed by Bill Robinson and Dan Eshner in Calgary. This forum strongly supported (1) close working relations with NTA, (2) adoption for use of NTA Dance Terminology and Dance Positions with the noted AKA factors, and (3) study of the evolving NTA syllabus and methods (teaching manuals) for consideration for use and/or adoption. Further contact will be made with NTA regarding these issues.

The annual meeting of the Canadian Dance Teachers Association takes place in Calgary July 15 - 17, 1994 and the word is that there will be discussion of formal entry into the area of CW instruction. There has been some initial conversation regarding the presence of ACWDA representation at the session in the interest of 'communication and collegial working relations' and regarding the interests and concerns of the CW community. Ian Munroe and Jerry Smith will attend as representatives if it appears advisable or necessary.

Need for an interim syllabus for the progression and sequence of classes and content was raised. Ian Munroe and Jerry Smith will look at this item. There will be an attempt to provide a draft for consideration and possible interim implementation before the Fall instruction sessions begin.

Closing remarks came from various participants. One raised the question of 'where were all the other people who should be here'. Another followed with a statement of the need for all involved to overcome or swallow egos wherever or whenever they interfere with the growth, development, and betterment of the CW dance form, that we need to work together to achieve the best for all of us, and especially the students. (As has been stated from the inception of ACWDA, we can accomplish more by sitting down together and talking to - and working with each other than by staying home and talking about - and working against - each other). Another compared attitudes and beliefs evident in this meeting with the forum held last June when considerable discussion and concern arose about 'outside influence' on the Alberta dance community, the importance of the Canadian heritage, 'American' vs 'Canadian', and so on. The session seemed to open where the other finally ended, with the acceptance of the idea of consideration of all that is available, making our decisions based on what is best for us rather than where it came from, to avoid isolationism, and to avoid the acceptance of any one format or philosophy or tour to the total exclusion of others. Nothing should preclude, impede, or negate our own heritage, development, achievement, or pride in them and ourselves. Growth and improvement certainly allow for those things and we seem to be moving in that direction - all we can do is get better at what we do.

ADDENDUM: At the Executive meeting held Sunday morning (94/05/29/9:0), the possibility of an Instructors' workshop to be held in conjunction with the 1995 AGM / Third Annual Instructors' Forum was explored. The feasibility of an NTA or related workshop for teachers will be investigated and reported back to the Executive.



ALBERTA COUNTRY WESTERN DANCE ASSOCIATION

COUNTRY WESTERN DANCE CONNECTIONS

NEWSMEMO

95.05se
MAY 1995

Special AGM Edition

NOTICE

TO ALL ACWDA MEMBERS

FOURTH ANNUAL ACWDA GENERAL MEETING

To be held 95/06/03/14:00 in the
FESTIVAL HALL (MEMORIAL CENTRE)

4214 - 58 Street, Red Deer

At 14:00 hrs (2:00 PM) Saturday June 3, 1995

AGENDA

Reports, Financial Statement, Appointment of Auditor,
1995-96 Budget, Other Business, Election of Secretary

THIS CONSTITUTES FORMAL NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FOURTH ANNUAL ACWDA DANCE AND SOCIAL

Hosted by the Central Zone, this fun and funding event will be held in Red Deer on
June 3 at the Festival Hall located at 4214 - 58 Street, Red Deer.

Doors open at 7:00 PM. There will be a cash bar, lunch at 10:30, a Jack and Jill
contest, and lots of prizes and draws including the 'Ultimate Door Prize'. Trophies
are up for grabs for the zone that has the highest percentage of its membership in
attendance and for the zone with the most new members since January 1, 1995.

The advance price is \$12.50 for members up to May 30 when it will increase to the
regular price of \$15.00 per ticket. Advance tickets are available from your Zone Rep.

YOU ARE HEREBY INVITED TO TAKE PART IN THE THIRD ANNUAL INSTRUCTORS' FORUM

Saturday June 3, 1995 at the Festival Hall in Red Deer located at 4214 - 58 Street.

Doors open at 8:25 hrs and the forum portion of the session will begin at 8:45. Jeff
Bartholomew will present a workshop geared toward but not restricted to instructors from
9:30 to 12:30. The cost will be \$10.00 for members and \$15.00 for nonmembers.

DANCE WORKSHOPS WITH JEFF BARTHOLOMEW WILL FOLLOW THE AGM. TWO SESSIONS ARE PLANNED BETWEEN
3:30 AND 5:30 PM. COST IS \$1.00 FOR MEMBERS ATTENDING THE AGM, \$3.00 FOR OTHER MEMBERS, AND \$5.00 FOR NON-
MEMBERS. SEE THE MAY NEWSMEMO (COMING SOON TO YOUR DOOR) FOR SPECIFICS ON ALL THREE WORKSHOPS.

MEMBERSHIP AND THE TIME FOR RENEWAL

Current memberships other than those taken out by new members since January 1, 1995 expire as the AGM is called to order. Renewal
or new membership applications should go to your Zone Rep or the Membership Secretary well in advance of the meeting (mail by May
18). To ensure current membership status at the meeting, applications can be hand delivered to the Zone Reps or Membership Secretary
prior to the meeting. Forms for your own renewal and for your recruitment of new members are enclosed. Bring a new member.

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MAY 6-7: ACWDA executive meets in Red Deer at 10:00 hrs May 6 and as required May 7.

MAY 6-7: Mario Robau Jr. is in Calgary to teach WCS, ECS, Hustle, and Push Whip. Call 403-269-5466 for information.

MAY 12-13: Rosemary Daley will be in Lethbridge for some Frame, Lead and Follow, Two Step, WCS, and Texas 3 Step. Call Maxine at 403-328-4145 or Rosemary at 403-284-0677.

MAY 13: Cadillac Jack's Country Dancers host an ECS workshop in Red Deer with Randy Blackburn. Call 403-343-6501 to register.

MAY 13: Funtime Cloggers present a workshop in Calgary with Janice Jestin from Yuma, AZ. Call Mel or Doris at 403-242-1630

MAY 20-21: Tony and Yvonne Gutsch will be in Edmonton for privates and for workshops. Call Darrell at 403-464-0022 for information or registration materials.

MAY 26-28: The Second Annual Cowichan Goes Country event offers couples and line dance workshops as well as a team and choreography competition. Call Jim or Daphne at 604-743-7654.

JUNE 1-2, 4-8: Jeff Bartholomew will be in Edmonton for privates. A Waltz and Cha Cha workshop with Jeff plus Rob and Sherry Tovell will be held June 4 at the Derrick G & C Club. Call Connie at 403-433-8147 for information or bookings.

JUNE 3: The ACWDA holds its 4th Annual General Meeting and Dance in Red Deer. An instructors' session and some dance workshops with Jeff Bartholomew are planned. A few privates may be available. Watch for more information.

JULY 2-5: Dave Getty will be in Edmonton to teach the Two Step school figures (July 3) and for privates. Details will follow. Call Connie at 403-433-8147 for bookings.

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Attend AGM' 95 on June 3 in Red Deer
and help strengthen the CW community



ALBERTA COUNTRY WESTERN DANCE ASSOCIATION

COUNTRY WESTERN DANCE CONNECTIONS

NEWSMEMO

95.04
APRIL 1995

FROM THE PREDATOR

A new Alberta based event passed through its initiation rites with what appeared to be flying colors. The Canadian Country Western Dance Championships festival kicked off the list of 1995 Alberta dance festivals in Calgary on March 10 to 12. As a spectator on the outside looking in, things were well organized and ran well, the staff was friendly and helpful, and the facility was quite user friendly and adequate. The numbers could have been higher but didn't look bad for a first time event. If the people on the inside and 'in the know' were satisfied, then it was indeed a success. The potential of an 'integrated' circuit bodes well for dancers and the dance community.

The feedback has remained mostly, if not completely, positive relating to the sessions for teachers done by Kelly Gellette in Red Deer recently. What negative response there has been has centred around two factors. One deals with the 'who has the right to tell me how to teach?' rationalism and the other has to do with the ever-present Canadian-American thing. The first is easily answered in that no one is trying to tell anyone how to teach. What is appropriate for beginners is another matter and how to teach it correctly is important - that is always worthy of discussion. Kelly herself stressed that nothing is written in stone, it's not her way or no way - the willingness to work together in this type of a forum is an important part of the development of dance. The second issue is one where reasonable pride gets carried away - or may be totally lacking and is used as a cover for an inferiority complex. Pride and self-respect must not be mixed up with arrogance, vanity, insecurity, or lack of confidence. Being Canadian, American, or whatever is no measure of being right or wrong, better or worse, superior or inferior. An open team approach enhances our activities.

AGM IV is coming up fast - June 3 to be exact. This is an important event as it offers opportunities at a number of levels. We get to meet together with our peers to discuss directions and guidelines for our Association to continue working toward the development and improvement of CW dance. There are workshops for teachers and dancers plus the social activities, formal and otherwise. Make arrangements now to attend.

A meeting was held March 11 for any interested and involved parties dealing with the 'importing' of instructors into Canada for workshops, etc. The necessity of dealing with Revenue Canada and the officials at Immigration has recently been thrust upon the CW dance community (see Letters to the Editor). Thanks go out to the folks at CCWDC for providing space and to Connie Maitland for providing her experience and newfound expertise.

ACWDA SPONSORS WORKSHOPS

The Association will sponsor workshops geared toward but not limited to instructors. Check the program for sessions with Jay Byam, Dan Eshner, and Beth Emerson at the Calgary Dance Stampede. Jeff Bartholomew is scheduled to present workshops during the AGM sessions in Red Deer in June.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

As of the March newsletter, Association memberships have increased to 138 located at addresses stretching from BC to Manitoba. There are 10 out of province members at the moment and 9 group or team memberships.

With the exception of new memberships taken out since January 1, all memberships expire at the beginning of the AGM. Renewals for 1995-96 will be as outlined in the November newsletter. Single or first family memberships will be \$20.00 per year with each additional family membership being \$10.00 based on one mailing per household; junior memberships are \$15.00 with junior family members being \$5.00. Group or team memberships remain at \$40.00 and associate memberships will stay at \$15.00. Current (1994-95) memberships can still be renewed for \$15.00.

Membership application/renewal forms will be available at the Calgary Dance Stampede and will be included with the May newsletter. 1995-96 memberships are due at the AGM June 3.

T²I² : TEACHER TALK - INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

We ran into Ian Munroe a couple of weeks ago and he hopes to have time to start writing again. We look forward to his columns adding to Newsmemo once again. (Just as an aside, one of Ian's columns got picked up from the 'Memo' and was printed in the Northwest Country Western Dance Association Newsletter - congratulations, Ian, even more people get to share your knowledge and effort on behalf of CW dance).

This month's column comes from NTA.

CHANGES IN TEACHING METHODS

It is unlikely that any single volume (or person or video) will contain everything that you ever wanted to know about teaching. No teacher who has ever worked with beginners, over extended periods of time, has ever reached the point where he (she) does not make some changes in teaching methods. As teachers, we are continually finding new ways to do things. We observe other teachers at work. Occasionally we pick up a tip from watching a teacher in another field of endeavour and adapt procedures from outside the realm of country western dancing that will work efficiently in training our new dancers. If we will tape ourselves as we teach and then analyze what we have done, we may discover that what we are expecting from our students is virtually impossible and, at that point, our good sense will tell us to make changes. If our presentation becomes stale, the students become bored.

When working with a list of basic material, we may come across something we would like to present earlier in our teaching program. For that reason, the order of presentation may be changed each time we work with a different class. Keep in mind those of us who have worked for years in putting material together as teachers working with beginners have often

presented ideas that you might like to add or consider. No one is ever going to exactly copy someone else when it comes to teaching. We all have our individuality, our own ways of fitting our personality and methods in our programs. The teacher who is aware of all the possibilities is often the one who will be doing the most effective job on bringing newcomers into the activity and, keeping them happy.

The Lesson plan - being ready - means more than putting equipment in the car and hooking up the PA system. An evenings outline, whether it is a lesson for rank beginners or for a more advanced group, must have variety built into it. To ensure against boredom, work out this program out well in advance and then go over it several times before the lesson actually takes place. Whatever time you spend in planning helps give the class members the type of dancing foundation they need. You learn by your experiences. A well marked lesson plan helps toward this end. You must have a plan, even if you have to change as you go along. The problems that exist in country western dance teaching today is in the 'mechanic.' If people leave the class unhappy, are confused, or don't come back, it shows that the teacher is not doing his/her job. The knowledge the teacher implants during every lesson should include the very tender balance of the three vital areas of the basic foundations of dance.

In order for us to effectively do our job, we have to know not only HOW to shift between the "Sensual", "Intellectual", and 'Social", but most importantly, we must know WHEN to shift.

We must be able to work 100% on each of these aspects in order to be able to deliver the appropriate amount to effectively create the balance required, when it is required. It can be accomplished. Don't throw out the tools - send the 'mechanic' to school to learn how to use the tools more efficiently.

4TH ANNUAL AGM SET FOR RED DEER

The Fourth Annual General Meeting and Dance will take place in Red Deer on June 3rd. Events are tentatively scheduled for Festival Hall with the instructors' forum in the morning, the AGM in the early part of the afternoon, and a couple of dance workshops following. The dance and a buffet lunch are in the works for the evening.

Details are being finalized to have Jeff Bartholomew provide a 'basics & fundamentals' type workshop for (but not restricted to) teachers in the morning. Following the AGM, dance workshops would be offered with very special rates to members who attend the meeting. Time for a few privates may also be available. Reduced rates for members will be in effect for most if not all activities. Watch for more details in the May Newsmemo.

RESULTS FROM THE 1995 CCWDC FESTIVAL

Competition results from the Canadian Country Western Dance Championships festival have been provided and are as follows:

Division : Just Dance 2

1. Jason Semenek/LeAnne Arsenault, Banff, AB 1st-2Stp;
1st-TTS; 1st-ECS

Division : Just Dance 1

1. Kirk Hammer/Nancy Jacques, Calgary, AB 2nd-2Stp;
1st-TTS; 1st-ECS

Also placing

- Terry Grant/Deborah Lumsden, Edmonton, AB 1st-2Stp
Brian Gauley/Valerie Sargent, Edmonton, AB 2nd-ECS
David Balie/Rosemary Daley, Calgary, AB 3rd-2Stp

Division : Just Dance ProAm Male

Placing:

- Josh Gifford/Rachael Anderson, Calgary, AB 1st-2Stp;
1st-WCS

Division : Just Dance ProAm Female

1. Toby Munroe/Dorothy Slemko, Calgary, AB 1st-2Stp;
1st-ECS; 1st-WCS
2. Ian Munroe/Delores parkhill, Calgary, AB 2nd-2Stp;
1st-TTS; 2nd-ECS

Division : Open

Placing:

- Gary McIntyre/Rachael Anderson, Saskatoon, SK/Calgary,
AB 1st-2Stp; 1st-WCS
Toby Munroe/Audra Matt, Calgary, AB/Saskatoon, SK
2nd-2Stp; 2nd-WCS
Gary McIntyre/Audra Matt, Saskatoon, SK 3rd-2Stp
Keith Hayne/Tammy Dulaba, Edmonton, AB 4th-2Stp;
3rd-WCS

Division 4

1. Cory Brinkman/Audra Matt, Saskatoon, SK 1st-2Stp;
1st-Wal; 1st-ChaCha; 1st-WCS

Also placing:

- Richard Blakney/Donya Heaton, Calgary, AB 2nd-2Stp;
2nd-ChaCha; 1st-ECS; 2nd-WCS
Gary O'Brien/Loretta Robb, Calgary, AB 2nd-Wal;
3rd-ChaCha; 2nd-ECS; 3rd-WCS
Ron Roy/Terry Bjorgan, Calgary, AB 3rd-2Stp; 3rd-ECS

Division 3

1. Terry Williams/Angie Stallard, Saskatoon, SK 1st-2Stp;
1st-Wal; 1st-ChaCha; 1st-Pol; 2nd-WCS
2. Frank Seymour/Karen Richard, Amherstburg, ON 3rd-2Stp;
4th-Wal; 2nd-ChaCha; 2nd-Pol; 1st-ECS

Also placing:

- Garth Lissina/Wendy Falkingham, Saskatoon, SK 3rd-Wal;
1st-WCS
Grant Albrecht/Sherry Tovell, Edmonton, AB 2nd-2Stp;
2nd-Wal

Division : Traditional

1. Ian/Mickey Munroe, Calgary, AB 2nd-2Stp; 1st-Wal;
1st-ChaCha; 2nd-ECS

Also placing:

- Wayne Ronald/Penny Norem, Calgary, AB 1st-2Stp;
1st-ECS
Don/Gina Warder, Calgary, AB 4th-2Stp; 2nd-Wal
Bob/Norma Byers, Stettler, AB 3rd-2Stp; 3rd-ECS

Division : Junior Youth

1. Cory vanden Brink/Katie Treheme, Calgary, AB 1st-2Stp;
1st-Wal; 1st-Solo

Division : Junior Teen

1. Myles Munroe/Trista Berg, Calgary, AB 1st-2Stp; 1st-Wal;
1st-Solo

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

There has recently been an unfortunate incident in the dance community involving Mr. Dave Getty and myself. As there have been many questions surrounding this event, I am taking this opportunity to let everyone know what happened.

Dave had come to Edmonton to give private instruction as well as to teach a workshop in Two Step, Waltz, and West Coast Swing. Two lecture classes were also scheduled. Jim and Stephanie McDonald, Ervin Latrace and Cheryl Mayes, and Dwayne Tulik and Elizabeth Art were also scheduled to teach with Dave the day of the workshop. The next day Dave was to fly to Calgary for a workshop at Jo Jo Belmonte's studio with several more days of private instruction to follow.

The day before the workshop, I received a phone call from Revenue Canada inquiring as to the whereabouts of Mr. Getty and demanding to know what tax arrangements had been made by me while he was here. I stated that Dave always declares his income in the US and starting in 1995, I was declaring it in Canada. I reassured the caller that there was no "illegal" or cash business going on. The investigator, Collette Morin, was adamant when she informed me that there was much more than that involved and that both of us had made inadequate preparations. I truthfully pleaded ignorance and she kindly granted me an informal, temporary tax waiver. Finally, I asked why she was calling. She stated in no uncertain terms that there had been a complaint made against Connie Maitland and Dave Getty by another person whose name she could not divulge. Needless to say, I was shocked and upset.

However, the worst was yet to come. The next day, just as the first workshop class was starting with Dwayne and Elizabeth, a clean cut young couple approached me, flashed their badges and ID, and asked me if I'd like to answer a few questions. They were agents from the Department of Immigration. The primary investigator, Gail McAllister, advised me immediately that they had come to investigate Dave and myself. Someone who they would not name had laid a complaint against Dave Getty and Connie Maitland, charging that Dave was working in Canada illegally. To make a long story short, I was questioned at length and Dave was detained at my home. He was then questioned, documented, and prohibited from working in Canada for that trip only. Moreover, he could not honour his work commitments in Edmonton or Calgary. No charges were laid and Dave flew home the next day.

There were no legal consequences for myself or my partner, Dwayne Tulik, or for Jo Jo Belmonte, Dave's employer in Calgary. There were, however, financial and personal consequences for all of us. The lost money was an issue but over the span of our lives, insignificant.

The personal effects were the most devastating. Whoever spent the quarter to make the call to report us certainly got their money's worth in shock value. This gives a whole new meaning to "Here's A Quarter, Call Someone Who Cares."

How does this affect all of us? What repercussions will this have throughout the Canadian CW community? Firstly, things will cost more. More people will have to spend more time at Immigration and Revenue Canada. The paperwork generated on both sides of the border will be time consuming and expensive. Contracts, letters of agreement, etc will have to be signed and honoured. These administrative headaches will not be free for anyone. Secondly, it goes without saying that this attack from within our community has a cost that cannot be measured in dollars, Canadian or American. Thirdly, I believe that this was a furtive, vindictive act perpetrated primarily toward Dave and perhaps myself as well. However, I don't believe that the person who made these hateful calls speaks for anyone else but himself/herself. Many of us know Dave as a knowledgeable, committed, and loyal individual whose opinions are as legendary as his choreography, but for the most part, wish him well.

I'd like to thank John Hoskin, my partner in life and in dance, for his hardworking support and caring. I'd also like to thank Dwayne Tulik, Elizabeth Artman, Larry Naughton, Jo Jo Belmonte, Mike Quail, Jerry Smith, and Bobbi Westman of the Alberta Dance Alliance for their cool heads and supportive actions. I'd also like to express my appreciation to Jim and Stephanie McDonald and the Mustang Dancers for their professional conduct on the day of the workshop.

Lastly, I'd like to thank 'Dakota' Dave Getty for his ongoing support of Canadian country western dancing. Watch for Dave in July and September for workshops and privates.

Sincerely
Connie Maitland

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT : POINTS TO PONDER

—>> Worry is misuse of imagination.

—>> Before you say anything to anyone (or about anyone), be sure you ask yourself three questions: Is it true? Is it kind? Is it necessary?

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

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APRIL 21 -23: The 4th Annual Calgary Country Dance Stampede returns to the Marlborough Inn with its couples and group competition, workshops, social events, and fun activities. Call Garry at 403-283-8002 for information.

APRIL 22: The South East Alberta Dancers Association present workshops in Medicine Hat with Jerry and Janice Jestin of Yuma, AZ for square and round dancing and clogging. Call Marg/Ed at 403-527-2760 or Evelyn/Jim at 403-527-1487.

MAY 6: Cadillac Jack's Country Dancers host an ECS workshop in Red Deer with Randy Blackburn. Call 403-343-6501 to register.

MAY 6-7: ACWDA executive meets in Red Deer at 10:00 hrs May 6 and as required May 7.

MAY 6-7: Mario Robau Jr. is in Calgary to teach WCS, ECS, Hustle, and Push Whip. Call 403-269-5466 for information.

MAY 13: Funtime Cloggers present a workshop in Calgary with Janice Jestin from Yuma, AZ. Call Mel or Doris at 403-242-1630

MAY 20-21: Tony and Yvonne Gutsch will be in Edmonton for privates and for workshops. Call Darrell at 403-464-0022 for information or registration materials.

MAY 26-28: The Second Annual Cowichan Goes Country event offers couples and line dance workshops as well as a team and choreography competition. Call Jim or Daphne at 604-743-7654.

JUNE 1-2, 4-6: Jeff Bartholomew will be in Edmonton for privates. A Waltz and Cha Cha workshop with Jeff plus Rob and Sherry Tovell will be held June 4 at the Derrick G & C Club. Call Connie at 403-433-8147 for information or bookings.

JUNE 3: The ACWDA holds its 4th Annual General Meeting and Dance in Red Deer. An Instructors' session and some dance workshops with Jeff Bartholomew are planned. A few privates may be available. Watch for more information.

JULY 2-5: Dave Getty will be in Edmonton to teach the Two Step school figures (July 3) and for privates. Details will follow. Call Connie at 403-433-8147 for bookings.

AUGUST 18 - 20: The Red Hot Dance Festival's 3rd annual event will be moved to a warmer summer schedule. Competition, workshops, and some great social activities will fill the weekend with fun. Call Rob or Bonnie at 403-346-5484.

AUGUST 18 - 20: The Canadian Finals Country & Western Dance Festival runs in Edmonton. Call 403-477-5590 for information.

SEPTEMBER 24-27: Dave Getty does a workshop at the Derrick Club in Edmonton with Jim and Stephanie McDonald,

and Rob and Sherry Tovell (Sept 24). Privates are available. For bookings or details, Call Connie at 403-433-8147.

SEPTEMBER 29-30 & OCTOBER 1: Workshops in Red Deer with Kelly Gellette will continue the NTA teaching syllabus material. Plans are to revisit Basic Fundamentals, get into Level I and II workshops, and provide testing for all three. Watch for more information.

NOVEMBER 10 - 12: River City CW Dance Festival III is scheduled for Edmonton, with competitive, social, and workshop activities. Contact Rob or Sherry at 403-439-5773.

JANUARY 26-28, 1996: Watch for info on the second annual Canadian Country Western Dance Championships festival.

ZONE REPS:

NORTHERN: Karen Gorman - 403-539-4201
EDMONTON: Gord Villumsen - 403-487-3477
CENTRAL: Rob Ironside - 403-346-5484
CALGARY: Gary Bilyk - 403-243-9770
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The end of April is the tentative editing date for the 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.



ALBERTA COUNTRY WESTERN DANCE ASSOCIATION

COUNTRY WESTERN DANCE CONNECTIONS

NEWSMEMO

95.03
MARCH 1995

FROM THE PREDITOR

The fact that February is the shortest month of the year may be a factor in the length of this edition. This month will be limited to one sheet but next month may be extended as we hope to have results and a report from the Canadian CW Dance Championships in Calgary. Connie Maitland has also indicated she will provide 'the rest of the story' on the 'migrant worker' problem she experienced in February.

Use of NTA terminology has already been accepted by ACWDA and the training and accreditation system is being given consideration for incorporation and use by ACWDA. An excellent workshop to this end was co-sponsored with Country Pride Dance Club in Red Deer on February 25-26. More will surely follow.

It's time to start thinking about the Annual General Meeting and Dance set for June 3rd in Red Deer. Plans are afoot to offer workshops for instructors and dancers. Watch for more details.

T² : TEACHER TALK - INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

About 40 people attended each day of the recent Red Deer workshop with Kelly Gellente and feedback has been very positive. Saturday was dedicated to the NTA Basic Fundamentals workshop for instructors. While geared toward teachers, the session was beneficial for anyone involved in dancing. Terminology, and basic movement and positions made up most of the content. All but 5 of the 44 people in attendance at the workshop completed the written and demonstration testing for this level. The written test consisted of 19 questions and the demonstration exam had 21 components requiring 46 demonstrations or explanations. In order to speed up the demonstrations, six 'locals' were given prior testing and coaching to allow them to assist in the testing. A number of people then went on to enjoy the hospitality and night life of Red Deer.

The Sunday session was more of a general dance workshop but included lots of material important to teachers. Dance positions and frame were dealt with in some detail. Participants received a good basic swing workshop and some valuable pointers in waltz and polka. Turn technique and some styling were also covered. Sunday provided an excellent example of the collegial relations and teachers and dancers helping each other as a number of the participants such as Rob Tovell and Jim and Stephanie McDonald contributed to the session. Several came away saying they had the opportunity to learn more about the basics of dance in the two days than in all their previous experience. Plans are already in motion to provide a follow-up workshop in the latter half of September. One possible scenario would see the Basic Fundamentals workshop repeated on a Friday evening with work on the Levels I and II workshops Saturday and Sunday. Watch for more information.

Country Pride instructors are already making use of the NTA

syllabus and teaching material. A number of people at the workshop expressed an interest in obtaining a copy of the NTA Teaching manual and Syllabus and requested information on how to do so. There are actually three volumes and each sells for \$35.00 plus \$3.00 shipping (US funds). The manuals can be ordered from NTA, PO Box 551264, Jacksonville, FL 32255-1264. An alternative method is available. **ACWDA is making a bulk purchase of the first manual and should be able to sell them for about \$45.00 Canadian. Considering the exchange rate and the \$5.00 collection tab added by Canada Post, that offers a considerable saving. Contact Rob Ironside or Jerry Smith ASAP if you are interested.**

THE MYSTERIOUS D. GETTY BUST

This is not in reference to financial misfortune befalling the former premier of our province nor does it concern a shoulders up rendering of a well known California dance instructor. It does relate to the confrontation of said dance instructor with customs and immigration officials as the result of an anonymous complaint. For those not already aware of the situation, immigration officers came looking for Dave Getty on the morning of February 4th on the grounds that he was teaching in Canada without a work permit. While things were threatening for awhile, the sequence of events leading up to the visit of the officials made it possible to avoid the worst of the potential consequences - including incarceration. Anyone bringing instructors, workers or officials for events, etc. into Canada in the future is going to have to meet the regulations of customs and immigration to avoid similar problems. Connie Maitland has indicated she will provide information regarding this situation for the newsletter. There is also a tentative meeting scheduled for March 11 at the CCWDC event in Calgary to discuss the ramifications and necessary response to the matter.

JOINT VENTURES : ADVERTISING

The ACWDA continues to be interested in looking at working with others to provide for events that will benefit CW dancers in Alberta. The executive has also just approved the mailing of flyers with the newsletter. The price is based on an the equivalent advertising rate with some minimums applying.

Dorothea Thielmann
Manager



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MARCH 10 - 12: The first annual Canadian Country Western Dance Championships will be held at the Carriage House Inn, Calgary. For information/registration packets, call Jo Jo at Strictly Dancing, 403-269-5466.

MARCH 18: ACWDA Central Zone is holding a meeting at CJ's at 2:00. Agenda items include planning for the 1995 AGM and Social. Call Rob at 403-346-5484 or Kathy at 403-343-6501.

MARCH 18 - 20: Jay Byam will instruct at a workshop in Regina, and will include different levels of Cha Cha, ECS, WCS, Two Step, and more. Call 403-526-0201 for information.

MARCH 25: Cadillac Jack's Country Dancers present an all day Progressive Country workshop with Gary Bilyk and Lynne Perrault. Call 403-343-6501 for information or registration.

APRIL 1: Cadillac Jack's Country Dancers would like you to join in the fun of a '50's and '60's theme dance at the Aberdeen hall east of Innisfail. Call Ray at 403-227-4748 or Jack at 403-227-2397 for information.

APRIL 2: The ACWDA Edmonton Zone will meet at the Yellowhead Inn at 1:00. Call Gord at 403-487-3477.

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RIVER CITY FESTIVAL: ROBBONNIE REVELL - 403-439-5773

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