

The ALBERTA COUNTRY & WESTERN DANCE ASSOCIATION

Volume I, Issue 2:0

April 10, 1992

THE VISION...

by Lynne Perrault, Calgary

"... People are talking, people are listening, people are dancing together!"

The question I hear most often as more people learn about the ACWDA is, ... "What exactly can you do?". Well, the effects of some of "what we can do" are being felt across Alberta right now, and is it ever exciting!

For example: all three of Calgary's major dance groups had socials in February, and there were dancers from each group at every social; Buddy Schwimmer was in Edmonton in February for a West Coast Swing workshop, and I believe half of Alberta attended; and in Red Deer "Country Pride" and "Cadillac Jack's" will be hosting a social together. Maybe these have nothing to do with the ACWDA, but I would like to think that we have helped to provide dancers all over the province with a common ground on which to meet and share ideas without judging each other; and that once people really started sharing with each other they began to discover that they all wanted basically the same things! (maybe not in the same order, but still the same things!)

Alberta is filled with many talented dancers, instructors and choreographers, many of whom spent years travelling North America to get training, and they're good! Each one has been working, to the benefit of their area, to establish a higher quality of western dance in Alberta. One of the things I hope the ACWDA can do is aid in networking these areas to help provide access to some of this information - and talent - and I believe we are starting to do just that! People are talking, people are listening, people are dancing together!

Jerry Smith (our Southern Zone Rep) has a few things to add to all this, but I would like to say that I believe whole-heartedly in the vision of a united group of Alberta dancers, and I believe very strongly that the ACWDA may be the medium by which this may be accomplished.

A SOUTHERN PERSPECTIVE:

by Jerry Smith, Medicine Hat

"... We can go further, faster and better if we move together."

One year ago this month, Country Western dancers and representatives of Country Western dance groups from across Alberta met in Red Deer. The goal was to consider the formation of an organization to help strengthen and enhance Country Western dance through better communication and cooperation. Invitations were sent to the major dance groups as well as a number of instructors and competitive dancers. Those who chose to attend - representatives of 9 groups and over 20 dancers and instructors - came from Grand Prairie, Red Deer, Medicine Hat, Calgary, and Edmonton. It was an interesting meeting as the participants were on their best behaviour as they set out to see what could be accomplished if

everyone talked to and with each other rather than about each other. The results were a little surprising and most encouraging as everyone put the interests of dancing first, and the decision was made to formally create an association to be known as the Alberta Country & Western Dance Association.

Representing a variety of centres, groups and individuals the participants symbolized the evolution of Country Western dance in Alberta where even smaller centres like Medicine Hat played a key role in the early development. Subsequent awareness and opportunity have resulted in more dancers from all parts of the province. Increasing numbers of Alberta dancers are now becoming recognized through their efforts and accomplishments as they perform and compete in more and more venues both within and beyond the borders of Alberta. All of this is the result of no single source or influence. Many contributions have been made on a more or less individual basis including the major workshops and events that have been scheduled in both Calgary and Edmonton.

The overall effects of this piecemeal approach can present a variety of problems. A collegial and cooperative approach with good, open communication will benefit everyone and this is even more true for those of us in the smaller communities. Edmonton and Calgary are certainly better able to survive on their own but even those in the larger centres lose out on opportunities when divisiveness and isolation occurs. There is an advantage in supporting each other's activities because it helps to ensure that these events and more like them will continue. *By working together, looking at the best everyone has to offer, and taking what we can use for both our individual and collective advantage, we have little to lose and much to gain.*

Country Western dance has come a long way in a relatively short time in Alberta and we can go further, faster and better if we move together. If we work in concert for our mutual benefit, we can also speak collectively and with some authority to others on our own behalf, when the need arises. By adopting a broad, cooperative vision, the ACWDA offers a real opportunity to move beyond the purely personal, group or local interests and provides a provincial umbrella organization for communication, coordination and sharing of dancing interests. Evidence of this is already to be found on both local and provincial levels. It has taken time and effort to get this far and more will be required as we begin to look at common concerns and interests in teaching, judging, events and communication. Join us in the search for common ground, together we can provide an Alberta network for the promotion and advancement of Country Western dance. Become a member of ACWDA.

Memberships are available for the 1992/93 season:
\$15 per year for Individual
\$40 per year for Group

(Please see back page for membership form)

The Alberta Country & Western Dance Association

THE REPS' CORNER

... *What is an Area Rep?*

Alberta is a large province with many C&W dancers. We found that dancers from different regions have different priorities, even though we all want basically the same things. Your area representative is your voice on the ACWDA. They make sure the Association is aware of what YOU want! Based on dance population and the different regions in Alberta that were represented at the first meeting, the ACWDA divided the province into the following areas:

- Zone 1 - Calgary, the City of Calgary and area
- Zone 2 - Edmonton, the City of Edmonton and area
- Zone 3 - Red Deer, everything from Red Deer to Airdrie
- Zone 4 - Medicine Hat, everything south of Calgary
- Zone 5 - Grande Prairie, everything north of Edmonton

The following is a list of your Area Reps. If you are interested in any part of the Association, please contact them.

Grande Prairie

Karen Gorman
130 Coachman Village
Grande Prairie, AB
T8V 2N9
(h) 539-4201
(w) 538-2883

Edmonton

Cathy Estabrooks
16950 - 101 Street
Edmonton, AB
T5X 4M4
(h) 475-8033

Red Deer

Rob Ironside
4537 - 45 Street
Red Deer, AB
T4N 1K2
(h) 343-2192
(w) 341-4070

Calgary

Lynne Perrault
41 Castlebrook Way NE
Calgary, AB
T3J 2A7
(h) 293-7923
(w) 691-7765

* Next Calgary Chapter Meeting

41 Castlebrook Way NE
April 20th, 8:00 p.m.

Medicine Hat

Jerry Smith
146 - 2nd Street NW
Medicine Hat, AB
T1A 6J3
(h) 527-6852

SOUTHERN SOUNDINGS - a report from Medicine Hat

Nothing major to report from the southern zone. More "country" bars keep appearing but it is still difficult to find many with a decent dance floor. More and more people keep turning out for lessons where they are available which shows that there is an interest in learning the Country Western style of dance. Hopefully more dancers will help persuade clubs and pubs of the need for a few more good floors. Some general discussions have taken place regarding the matter of instruction - and to a lesser extent - of judging. A few people have expressed an interest in the opportunity to become involved with further discussions at and beyond the local level. Queries have been received about membership but little activity has resulted from them to date. The opportunity to do something or get something may affect the interest in memberships.

FROM RED DEER

Lots going on in Central Alberta, we have been on a major membership drive and we now have approximately 30 people involved from this area. There has been much interest expressed teaching standards, terminology, and communications. If nothing else, the Association has already accomplished a great deal in this area by getting people to talk to each other and compare notes and ideas ... it's Great! The Chapter Meeting held on April 5th went very well, we had approximately 30 people in attendance. We held our elections for committee heads and area reps, here's the list:

Rob Ironside, Area Rep - 343-2192 Laurie Koebel, Teaching - 343-6501
Kathy Koebel, Vice Rep - 343-6501 Bonnie Elliott, Judging - 343-2192
Lynn Skrepnyk, Events - 887-2926 Lynette Remym, Sanct. - 346-8319
Kevin Moore, Membership - 347-3643

We discussed things that were of concern to people and ways to solve them. We had instructor form Ballroom there to share their knowledge and ideas. We talked about things like a teacher's handbook, levels of certification for teachers and judges, using available material from outside sources to build and develop our own standard, provincial training workshops, communication through our newsletter, as well as other forms of public media and dance publications. We covered sanctioning provincial events and perhaps having a provincial contest for our dancers; membership cards, and working with Recreation boards to keep others informed as to what is going on in country and western dancing.

All in all the meeting was extremely productive and a learning experience for all. We hope other areas are having as much fun as we are.

CALGARY NEWS

Our last meeting was held February 10th attended by nine people. It was mostly an information session, but it has helped to start spreading the word in Calgary about the ACWDA. Our next meeting is scheduled for April 20th, 8:00 p.m. at 41 Castlebrook Way NE. We would like to establish some Calgary committees in areas like teaching, judging, communications, etc. We currently need people who are interested in these areas, and I know you're out there! Please contact Lynne for more info; Days - 691-7765; or Nights - 293-7923.

CLUB CORNER

Every newsletter we will list names and contact numbers of various dance organizations who are members of the ACWDA, so if you're in town give them a call and find out what's going on!

Lonestar Dancers - Medicine Hat 527-6852
Cadillac Jack's Country Dancers - Red Deer 343-6501
Country Cuz Its Fun - Calgary 283-FUNN
Country Pride Dance Club - Red Deer 346-8319
Calgary's Spirit of the West Dance Society - 244-2984
Silver Spurs - Edmonton 475-8033

Coming soon! An interview with the Country Pride Dance Club!

The Alberta Country & Western Dance Association

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

... Individual or Group?

We currently have two levels of membership available through the ACWDA, Individual and Group.

As an "individual" member you're entitled to receive the newsletter, are eligible to volunteer to sit on any committees created, and have one vote at any general meeting or election held by the ACWDA.

The "group" membership allows you elect one person from your organization to represent your members on any committees or at any general meetings and elections. A group who is a member of the ACWDA is entitled to one vote as a whole. A group member also receives the newsletter, and is entitled to list their organization under the "Club Corner" section.

Yes, you may belong to an organization who is a member of the ACWDA, and also have an individual membership.

Why is it so important to have a vote?

Every year in May the ACWDA will be holding a General Meeting where elections will take place. The membership at large will nominate and elect a President and Secretary. The members of the different regions in Alberta will also hold annual elections to nominate and elect their area representative. Do you want a say in who represents you?

Does the ACWDA do anything else for me?

A province-wide dance association will help us to narrow down exactly what Alberta dancers want or need on the competition floor. This will allow the ACWDA to represent all Alberta dancers in submissions to the United Country and Western Dance Council.

Memberships are currently available for the 1992/1993 season.

\$15 PER YEAR FOR INDIVIDUAL

\$40 PER YEAR FOR GROUP

(Please see back page for membership form)

FIRST GENERAL MEETING & ELECTIONS

A date has been set for the first General Meeting and official elections.

DATE: MAY 30TH, 1992

TIME: 1:00 P.M.

PLACE: RED DEER LODGE, ALBERTA

There will be nomination forms available at the meeting, but if for any reason a person cannot attend the meeting to accept the nomination, they may be nominated and seconded by mail ballot if an acceptance signature is on the nomination form. Please see last page for form.

Only members in good standing, present at the meeting, will be entitled to vote, and no proxy votes will be accepted.

(Member in good standing has paid their dues and been a member for at least one month)

Country Pride and Cadillac Jack's will be hosting a social that night, doors open at 7:30 at the Highland House, corner of 48 Ave and 51 Street. Tickets are \$8.00 in advance, \$10 at the door. Hope you can make it!

ASSOCIATION NEWS

The ACWDA Mission Statement is: "To provide a sound foundation on which country and western dancing can be taught, learned, performed, evaluated and enjoyed." In the by-laws we have taken this one step further and broken our mission statement down into the following areas:

- To promote and facilitate communication and collegial working relations with the Alberta country and western dancing community.
- To promote, protect, and improve country and western dancing as an art form.
- To promote the establishment of a uniform set of teaching techniques which naturally progress to the competition floor.
- Survey, develop, certify and rate country and western dance judges.
- To sanction and promote country and western dance events within the Province of Alberta.
- To promote and facilitate communication and collegial working relations with the country and western dance community beyond Alberta.

These were the areas that Alberta dancers were the most concerned about, and to help address some of these issues the following committees were established at a meeting held in Edmonton on November 16th, 1991:

TEACHING

Mike Quail - Calgary
Dwayne Hryniv - Edmonton
Lee Spila - Edmonton
Sharon Thompson - Edmonton
Laurie Koebel - Red Deer
Dennis Hawkins - Edmonton

JUDGING

Mike Quail - Calgary
Dennis Hawkins - Edmonton
Bonnie Eliote - Red Deer
Shane Lopushinsky - Red Deer
Lee Spila - Edmonton

EVENTS

Cathy Estabrooks - Edmonton
Dianne Fehr - Calgary
Robert Ironside - Red Deer
Sharon Thompson - Edmonton
Kathy Koebel - Red Deer
Lee Spila - Edmonton
E.J. Foley - Edmonton

COMMUNICATION

Sue Hawkins - Edmonton
Lynne Perrault - Calgary
E.J. Foley - Edmonton
Karen Lopushinsky - Red Deer
Peter Ewaskow - Red Deer

SANCTIONING

Garry Nanninga - Calgary
Cathy Estabrooks - Edmonton

MEMBERSHIP

Michelle Paradis - Edmonton

If you have any interest in these committees, please contact your Area Rep. and they will get you in touch with the appropriate person.

The Alberta Country & Western Dance Association

ACWDA Membership Application 1992 -1993

(Please Print)

Name _____

Address _____

(include postal code)

Phone (h) _____ (w) _____

Signature: _____

I am over 18 years of age

Individual - \$15 Group - \$40

Enclose Cheque and Mail to:
ACWDA Secretary/Treasurer Michelle Paradis
Box 366, Fallis, Alberta TOE 0V0

1992/93 ACWDA Nomination Form

I, _____
(Print Name)

wish to nominate:

(Print Nominee's Name)

For the Position of:

Signature: _____

Second: _____
(Print name)

Second's Signature: _____

I Accept the Nomination

Signature: _____

Date: _____

CURRENT EVENTS

On the back page of every newsletter we will be listing events that are occurring around Alberta in the next few months. If you have anything to submit please see the submission box at the bottom of this page.

April

10 Country 'Cuz it's Fun is hosting the Calgary Country Dance Stampede Dance Competition and workshops. Sue Wagner, Mistress of Ceremonies; "Dakota" Dave Getty, Contest Coordinator. Quicksilver Scoring System and UCWDC rules will be used. Couples competition: Divisions I, II, III, and IV; Group competitions: AAA, AA, and A Divisions; Juniors competitions and a Jack & Jill will also be held. For more information please call (403) 283-3866.

15 Edmonton, Beginner Level II - 2-step, D&S Country Dancing (473-5685).

16 John Conlee with Special Guest Tineta - Edmonton Convention Inn Ballroom. Tickets at Ticket Master or Alberta Boot.

22 Edmonton, Beginner Level II - 2-step, D&S Country Dancing (473-5685).

24 Cism' Country Dancers Fund Raiser Dance - at Curley's Coral, Yellowhead Motor Inn, Edmonton. Tickets at the door \$6.00.

29 Edmonton, Beginner Level II - 2-step, D&S Country Dancing (473-5685).

May

3 Edmonton, Beginner Waltz & Cha Cha, D&S Country Dancing (473-5685).

13 Edmonton, Beginner Level III - 2-step, D&S Country Dancing (473-5685).

20 Edmonton, Beginner Level III - 2-step, D&S Country Dancing (473-5685).

29 Edmonton, Beginner Level III - 2-step, D&S Country Dancing (473-5685).

30 ACWDA'S FIRST GENERAL MEETING AND ELECTIONS, Red Deer Lodge at 1:00 p.m. Dance that evening at the Highland House, 48 Ave & 51 St. Tickets \$10 at the door, \$8 in advance, call Rob Ironside for more details (343-2192).

31 Calgary's Spirit of the West is hosting an "Advanced Beginner" Progressive Country Workshop. Call Heather Blais for more info (248-4583).

June

20 Calgary's Spirit of the West is holding a Social. Call Heather Grant for more info (271-7996).

We need your event information and welcome letters! Please send to:

Edmonton:	Sue Hawkins	453-2759
	E.J. Foley	942-4530
Red Deer:	Karen Lopushinsky	347-9755
	Peter Bwaskow	885-4831
Calgary:	Lynne Perrault	293-7921

Submission deadlines June 15, 1992
Editor Lynne Perrault

The ALBERTA COUNTRY & WESTERN DANCE ASSOCIATION

Volume 1, Issue 1.0

January 30, 1992

WELCOME!...

...All Founding Members, New Members, and Alberta Dancers.

Well, it's taken almost a year, but what began as a general conversation over coffee among a few C&W dancers has now become the Alberta Country & Western Dance Association (or the ACWDA).

It became apparent at the infamous Red Deer meeting of April, 1991 that there's a large population of western dancers in Alberta and that they would like to get to know each other. They decided that a province-wide dance association would give us a way to communicate with each other as well as help to establish some "provincial standards" in different dance areas. Since then a lot of people have been working very hard to find out exactly what Alberta C&W dancers want and where they want to go, and the final result is the birth of a new "dancers" association.

The following letter from our Interim President, Garry Nanninga, will go into more detail about how exactly we arrived where we are today and where we would like to go, so let me say that there were three main areas of interest - Communication, Instruction, and Competition - and we hope that this newsletter will begin to answer your requests for better communication and more information.

Inside this first issue you will find information on the Association, ...why you'd want to become a member, and how to go about doing just that. We welcome any comments or suggestions on format, articles of interest, letters from the membership, etc. Please, let us know what you want, this is YOUR newsletter!



DO YOU HELP?

We need a name for the newsletter and a logo for the Association! We welcome any and all submissions and suggestions. Please send your ideas into your Area Representative before March 15th, 1992.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

... "This is an Association of dancers, for dancers..."

In April of 1991 an enthusiastic group of dancers braved the on-coming blizzard and met in Red Deer to discuss the formation of an association for Alberta's country and western dancers. It was a great beginning - people were contributing their ideas, were receptive to other people's ideas, and were positive. What a great start! We talked about what we saw as the needs and direction of the Alberta C&W dance community, and with that in mind, an interim executive representing the various regions of the province was elected and given the mandate of developing by-laws for the Association.

In November, after the executive had spent countless hours drafting the by-laws, a meeting was held with the founding members of the Association where the draft by-laws were reviewed and changes recommended. It was also decided the Association would be incorporated as a non-profit society and that a membership drive would be initiated.

The Mission Statement for the Alberta Country & Western Dance Association is *"To provide a sound foundation on which country and western dancing can be taught, learned, performed, evaluated and enjoyed"*.

There are many ways in which the members of the ACWDA will accomplish this. The Association recognizes that it is important to listen to each and every member and from that forge a direction. Presently, we see a need for better communication among dancers, and we plan to meet that need by holding local chapter meetings, holding an annual meeting, and issuing regular newsletters.

Some of the Association's objectives include standardizing teaching terminology and establishing a uniform set of dance teaching standards and techniques. We also recognize a need to develop judges and host competitions and other events throughout the Province. In all, it means that Alberta dancers will be working together and through that alliance will be working with other dancers in Canada, the United States, and the world.

The future is ours, and with the enthusiasm and energy of each and every one of us the Alberta Country & Western Dance Association will not only shape the future of dance in Alberta, it will also give Alberta dancers a recognized voice in the world of C&W dancing.

This is an association of dancers, for dancers, so if you dance we would like you to be a part of it. Come share the excitement, the rewards, and the future of the Alberta Country & Western Dance Association.

Interim President, Garry Nanninga

THE ALBERTA COUNTRY & WESTERN DANCE ASSOCIATION

THE REPS' CORNER...

... What is an Area Rep?

Alberta is a large province with many C&W dancers. We found that dancers from different regions have different priorities, even though basically we all want the same things. Your area representative is your voice on the ACWDA. They make sure the Association is aware of what YOU want! If you think you may be interested in becoming an area representative the information on the up-coming general meeting will tell you how.

Based on dance population and the different regions in Alberta that were represented at the first meeting, the ACWDA divided the province into the following areas:

- Zone 1 - Calgary, the City of Calgary and area
- Zone 2 - Edmonton, the City of Edmonton and area
- Zone 3 - Red Deer, Central Alberta
- Zone 4 - Medicine Hat, Southern Alberta
- Zone 5 - Grande Prairie, Northern Alberta

Each region has an Area Representative, and this page will be reserved for reports from your reps. This is where you can find out when the next Chapter Meeting is being held in your district, who to contact for more information on the Association, and what has been happening in your particular location.

The following is a list of your Area Reps, please contact them for more information on the Association.

Grande Prairie

Karen Gorman
130 Coachman Village
Grande Prairie, AB
T8V 2N9
(h) 539-4201
(w) 538-2883

Calgary

Lynne Perrault
41 Castlebrook Way NE
Calgary, AB
T3J 2A7
(h) 293-7923
(w) 691-7765

Edmonton

Cathy Estabrooks
16950 - 101 Street
Edmonton, AB
T5X 4M4
(h) 475-8033

* Next Calgary Chapter Meeting
South Calgary Community Hall
3130 - 16th Street SW
February 10th, 8:00 p.m. Sharp

Red Deer

Rob Ironside
4537 - 45 Street
Red Deer, AB
T4N 1K2
(h) 343-2192
(w) 341-4070

Medicine Hat

Jerry Smith
146 - 2nd Street NW
Medicine Hat, AB
T1A 6J3
(h) 527-6852

... Many thanks and much appreciation to the five interim area reps (as well as the president and secretary) who made the time to hold chapter meetings so the dancers in their areas would be represented, and who traveled incredible distances to make the by-law meetings.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION...

... Individual or Group?

We currently have two levels of membership available through the ACWDA, Individual and Group.

As an "individual" member you're entitled to receive the newsletter, may volunteer to sit on any committees created, and have one vote at any general meeting or election held by the ACWDA.

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So not only can your organization become a member of the ACWDA, but you as an individual can also become a member.

Why is it so important to have a vote?

Every year in May the ACWDA will be holding a General Meeting where elections will take place where the membership at large will nominate and elect a President and a Secretary. Also, each ACWDA "zone" will hold annual elections to select their area representative. Do you want a say in who represents you?

Does the ACWDA do anything else for me?

The Association will be receptive to not only the needs of the social dancer, but also to the needs of the competitor. As a province-wide organization we will be better able to receive your input which can be used in submissions to organizations like the United Country & Western Dance Council*.

*Currently, the UCWDC is one of the "major players" in C&W dancing in North America and is helping to establish international competition standards.

Memberships are currently available for the 1992/1993 season.

The cost for a membership is:
\$15 per year for Individual
\$40 per year for Group

(Please see back page for membership form)

THE ALBERTA COUNTRY & WESTERN DANCE ASSOCIATION

ASSOCIATION NEWS...

...*Let's get Involved!*

Garry mentioned in his letter, the Association Mission Statement is: "To provide a sound foundation on which country and western dancing can be taught, learned, performed, evaluated and enjoyed." In the by-laws we have taken this one step further and broken our mission statement down into the following areas:

Article IV, Section 4.01 - To promote and facilitate communication and collegial working relations with the Alberta country and western dancing community.

Article IV, Section 4.02 - To promote, protect, and improve country and western dancing as an art form.

Article IV, Section 4.03 - To promote the establishment of a uniform set of teaching techniques which naturally progress to the competition floor.

Article IV, Section 4.04 - Survey, develop, certify and rate country and western dance judges.

Article IV, Section 4.05 - To sanction and promote country and western dance events within the Province of Alberta.

Article IV, Section 4.06 - To promote and facilitate communication and collegial working relations with the country and western dance community beyond Alberta.

These were the areas that Alberta dancers were the most concerned about. To help address some of these issues the following committees were established at the meeting held in Edmonton on November 16th, 1991:

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Mike Quail - Calgary
Dwayne Hryniw - Edmonton
Lee Spila - Edmonton
Sharon Thompson - Edmonton
Laurie Koebel - Red Deer
Dennis Hawkins - Edmonton

JUDGING

Mike Quail - Calgary
Dennis Hawkins - Edmonton
Bonnie Elliott - Red Deer
Shane Lopushinsky - Red Deer
Lee Spila - Edmonton

EVENTS

Cathy Estabrooks - Edmonton
Dianne Fehr - Calgary
Robert Ironside - Red Deer
Sharon Thompson - Edmonton
Kathy Koebel - Red Deer
Lee Spila - Edmonton
E.J. Foley - Edmonton

COMMUNICATION

Sue Hawkins - Edmonton
Lynne Perrault - Calgary
E.J. Foley - Edmonton
Karen Lopushinsky - Red Deer
Peter Ewaskow - Red Deer

SANCTIONING

Garry Nanninga - Calgary
Cathy Estabrooks - Edmonton

MEMBERSHIP

Michelle Paradis - Edmonton

If you have any interest in these committees, please contact your Area Rep. and they will get you in touch with the appropriate person.

FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ...

...*Nominations & Elections*

Now that we have by-laws drafted and ready to be submitted for incorporation, a tentative date has been set for the first General Meeting and official elections.

Date: May 30th, 1992

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Place: Red Deer Lodge, Alberta

The following is taken directly from the ACWDA By-laws:

Article VII, Section 7.07 - "Election or Appointment of Officers"

- The membership shall elect the Officers of: a President and a Secretary.
- The Board will elect a treasurer, and such other Officers as the Board may determine, including one or more assistants to any of the Officers so elected or appointed.
- The membership within each of the five zones may elect one Zone Representative from their respective zones.

There will be nomination forms available at the meeting, but if for any reason a person cannot attend the meeting to accept the nomination, they may be nominated and seconded by mail ballot if an acceptance signature is on the nomination form. Please see last page for form.

You must have been a member of the ACWDA for at least a month, and be present at the General Meeting to be entitled to vote. No proxy votes will be accepted.

CLUB HAPPENINGS...

...*If you're in town, give them a call!*

This section will be reserved for ACWDA "group" members. In every issue we will list names and contact numbers of various dance organizations who are members of the ACWDA, so if you're in town give them a call and find out what's going on!

Cadillac Jack's Country Dancers - Red Deer 343-6501
Calgary's Spirit of the West Dance Society 244-7984
Country Pride Dance Club - Red Deer 346-8319
Lonestar Dancers - Medicine Hat 527-6852
Silver Spur Dancers - Edmonton 475-8033
Wild Rose Country Dancers - Red Deer 342-7020

A special thanks to our Secretary/Treasurer, Michelle Paradis. She was the one who arranged places to meet, organized lunch, faithfully sent meeting notices & minutes, and typed numerous drafts of the by-laws.

THE ALBERTA COUNTRY & WESTERN DANCE ASSOCIATION

CURRENT EVENTS...

...You wanted dancing... So we'll give you dancing!

On the back page of each issue we'll list dance events that are happening around the Province (for about a three month span). If you have anything you would like to share, pass-on, etc., please see the submission box at the bottom of this page.

February:

7-9 West Coast Swing Workshop - Edmonton, Buddy Schwimmer teaching, Call Maria at 471-0846 to register.

14 Stardust C/W Dance Association is holding a dance at the Yellowhead in Curly's. Call 444-4940 for information.

Silver Spur Country Corral is holding a dance in the Redwater area. Call 942-4729 for details.

22 Calgary's Spirit of the West is hosting a Beginner Progressive Country Workshop Gary Bilyk & Lynne Perrault will be teaching. Social to follow, call Heather at 248-4583 for details.

23 West Coast and Two-step workshop in Surrey, BC, call Kelly Dupuis for information (604) 941-8406

21-23 Two-day workshop with Connie & Dennis McGuire in Courtenay, BC. Call Dennie LaBlanc (640) 338-5646 for information.

March

13 Country Cuz It's Fun is holding a dance at the Polish Canadian Centre. Call 283-FUNN for more information.

15 West Coast and two step workshop in Surrey, BC, call Kelly Dupuis for information (604) 941-8406.

Calgary's Spirit of the West is offering a one-day beginner West Coast Swing workshop taught by Patty Leinemann. For details call Heather at 248-4583.

28 Stardust C/W Dance Association holding a dance at the Yellowhead in Curly's. Call 444-4940 for more information.

Silver Spur Country Corral is holding a dance in the Redwater area, call 942-4729 for details.

April

10-12 Country Cuz It's Fun is hosting the Calgary Country Dance Stampede Dance Competition and workshops, provisionally sanctioned by the UCWDC. Sue Wagner, Mistress of Ceremonies; "Dakota" Dave Getty, Contest Coordinator. Couples; Group; Juniors; and, a Jack & Jill competitions will be held. For more information please call (403) 283-3866.

May

30 ACWDA's First General Meeting & Elections
Red Deer Lodge at 1:00 p.m. Dance that evening, information to follow.

We want your event information and welcome your letters, comments, and suggestions! Please send to:		
Edmonton:	Sue Hawkins	453-2759
	E.J. Foley	942-4530
Red Deer:	Karen Lopushinsky	347-9755
	Peter Borskow	885-4803
Calgary:	Lynne Perrault	293-7923
Submission deadlines		March 15, 1992
Editor		Lynne Perrault

ACDA 1992-93

Membership Application

Name _____
(please print)

Address _____

(include postal code)

Phone (h) _____ (w) _____

Signature: _____

I am over 18 years of age

Individual - \$15 Group - \$40

Please send me a copy of the By-laws, I have enclosed \$2 for postage & handling

Enclose Cheque and Mail to:
ACWDA Secretary/Treasurer Michelle Paradis
Box 366, Fallis, Alberta TOE 0V0

ACWDA NOMINATION FORM

I, _____
(print name)

wish to nominate:

(print nominee's name)

For the Position of:

Signature: _____

Seconder: _____

(print name)

Seconder's Signature: _____

I Accept the Nomination

Signature: _____

Date: _____

JERRY SMITH
146 - 2nd Street NW
Medicine Hat, AB
T1A 6J3
(403) 527-6852



Country Dancing
DEMONSTRATIONS
PERFORMANCES
LESSONS

Texas Style

March 1991

TO THE REST OF ALBERTA:
FROM THE FORGOTTEN CORNER:

From time to time, some of the folks from the southeastern portion of the province have viewed themselves as being far away from, forgotten, or ignored by, the rest of the province - - - or the country or the world if one extends into hyperbole. With modern transportation and communication, that may not be accurate but as long as people feel that way the perception has to be dealt with as though it was the reality. Alberta dancers may hold this perception to varying degrees about their position relative to the rest of the Country Western dance community both within and outside of the province; that needs to be dealt with in a positive and constructive manner. A good solution would appear to be for Alberta dancers to work together for their mutual benefit and to be able to speak collectively with some authority on their own behalf. At the moment there is no way to accomplish any of these things.

The evolution of Country Western dance in Alberta comes from no single center. Medicine Hat was important in the early development and Edmonton moved successfully into competition on both the group and couples levels. Calgary followed into the competition scene on a winning note and then Edmonton hosted the first Canadian dance festival which brought a lot of new Alberta dancers onto the competition floor. Awareness and opportunity have resulted in more dancers from all parts of the province and the spotlight must now be broadened to recognize them. Major workshops have been held in both Edmonton and Calgary and instruction is now available on a regular basis in many centers in the province. The upcoming second edition of the Canadian Finals Dance Festival in Edmonton should do nothing but support the further development and expansion of Country Western dance in this province and Calgary's plans for 1992 have the potential to carry on the growth and development.

More Alberta dancers are now becoming recognized through their efforts and accomplishments as they win at more and more competitions. Two prime examples occurred this past summer when Alberta dancers were second only to those from California in terms of the number of winners at the 1990 Portland Festival and Albertans took away half the hardware at the Blue Ridge Festival in August. Things have advanced very quickly in just a few years and the change has not

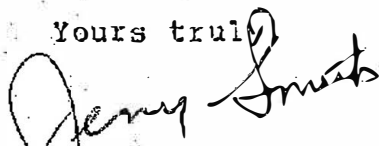
taken place in a vacuum. Where we are now is the result of no single source or influence and no single entity or influence will take us much farther. Many people have contributed to the success and by working together we can only continue to get better.

A collective and cooperative approach is important to everyone but it is even more critical to those of us in smaller communities. Calgary and Edmonton are better able to survive on their own but even they lose opportunities when divisiveness and isolation occurs. By working together, looking at the best anyone and everyone has to offer, and taking what we can use best for both our individual and collective advantage, we have little to lose and much to gain.

An exploratory meeting has been called in Red Deer for April 6th, 1991 and whether it is the time or the place is irrelevant at this point. If some form of an association to work for the benefit of Alberta Country Western dancers is to come about, we have to start somewhere and this may as well be it. If we can sit down together and talk to and with each other, we have more to gain than by staying away and talking about each other. Coordination, communication, sharing, and perhaps some smaller 'fun festivals' in centers outside of Calgary and Edmonton are a few of the things that we might all gain from the exercise.

Our development to date has been the result of the effort, influence, and input of a number of people from a number of places. We have come a long way in a short time and we can go further faster if we go together. Here's hoping for a good turnout on April 6th, particularly from the smaller centers.

Yours truly


Jerry Smith
President
Lonestar Dancers