

MIAMI VALLEY FOLK DANCERS BULLETIN

JUNE 1978

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE WEEKEND - NOV. 4 & 5 - BOMBERGER CENTER

Carolyn Stovall, chairperson of the Fall Workshop has aggressively pursued setting the date, place, and leader. With the interest for Scottish dances in this area, a date with no interferences and with a well known Scottish Dance Leader, the Week End promises to be another great MVFD Workshop. (Mark your Calendar now)

The Council took into consideration the results of the survey for workshops which showed a desire for Israeli, English and Scottish in that order. Having just completed two workshops of predominantly line type dances, it was decided to wait until next spring for the Israeli workshop. The Council desired to do additional research on interest and leadership before having an English workshop.

C. Stewart Smith, Houston, Texas, one of the best known instructors or Scottish Dances in the U. S., will be the Instructor/Leader for the Weekend. Stewart is employed as a Teacher of Scottish Dancing at St. Thomas School, Houston, Texas. He is on the staff of Idyllwild Folk Dance Workshop and Stockton Folk Dance Camp. He has conducted Workshops from British Columbia to California.

Carolyn is developing a checklist for workshops along with preparing for the Week End. Those members who have experience with workshops should pass on ideas to be included in the checklist. Also please include notes on successes, failures and worries. All members should be supporting Carolyn by volunteering early to help.

ETHNIC SUNDAY - JULY - UNITED STATES THEME

Assuming that the temperature and humidity will be similar to June, the program is going to be at the easy level, which will have little concentration but enjoyable movements and music. There will be some old, some new mixers, squares, contras and round dances. (Vera with the help of Bruce will teach Beautiful Ohio) Most dances will be prompted which is characteristic of U. S. Folk Dances. Hulon Shows is program leader for the day. Lou Hyll will be assisting.

Ethnic Dishes will be easy for all. The Club is providing "Good Ole American Hot Dogs and Wieners" prepared by our capable Refreshment Chairperson, Rose Anna Mills. Hulon Shows is providing Home Made Ice Cream. So this is a good time to bring your friends and family and enjoy a good "Ole Tyme" American Folk Dance and "Cover Dish" meal at very little cost.

Dress Comfortably. July 9, Start 2:30 with familiar dances, 3:00 instructions, 5:30 Dinner, After Dinner review & Good Time.

COUNCIL MEETING

A joint meeting of the Council, the chairpersons of committees and the entire Program Committee was held June 12 at Bruce Cantrell's and the Mills' home. The purpose was to evaluate the overall club activities and effectiveness and take actions where necessary to improve. The following are actions taken to improve areas that the attendees felt needed improvement or clarification:

Balance in Programs. - Program Committee will issue guidance to members to help them in selecting dances that insure a balance of types, formations, countries, steps, level and new dances. The first guidance will be distributed June 29 to use and obtain reactions of members.

Operating the P. A. System. - Program Committee will prepare instructions on operating the P. A. System and will demonstrate proper use when necessary.

Leader's Responsibility for Ethnic Sunday. - Program Committee will prepare guidance or checklist for members assigned as leader of Ethnic Sundays.

Request Time. - Each member will make only one request per session until the leader indicates that the list is open for second requests if everyone desiring to do so has made their first request.

Children Dancing. - The MVFD programs are primarily for adults and older youth who have attended instruction periods and have become capable of performing the dances. Children may attend instruction classes if they can learn the steps, movements, and routines, if they can attend regularly, and if their parents are also attending. Parents are encouraged to work with their children at home in learning dances. The club will assist with this when necessary. Children will dance after 8:00 only if they know the dance.

Credit for Instruction Classes. - To obtain a credit for an instruction class in order to meet membership status, guest and Associate Members must attend the entire one hour class.

Who Runs the Club? - The Council regrets that there are feelings among new members that their opinions are not considered by the old members, and old members feel that they have no voice in the club operations because of so many new members. The Council is trying to be sensitive to all views, however it is difficult to react to generalities. We invite you to make specific suggestions to any Council member. One Council member has declared "I can only react to written suggestions." Most of us respond to verbal, but written suggestions is a good idea.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE CHANGES

To insure overlap of program committee members, the Council appoints one member to serve from July to July each year. We welcome Ann Ballinger as she comes on to the Program Committee and we express thanks to Adele Nellis for the work she has done this year as she leaves the committee. Adele's capability and devotion to the club program is felt continuously by the club. Ann adds greatly to the Program Committee with her experience and also being in charge of the Beginners Instructions.

ETHNIC SUNDAY SCHEDULE ESTABLISHED BY PROGRAM COMMITTEE

July 9 - United States
August 13 - International (Request & Review)
September 10 - English
October 8 - Romance Countries (Spain, Italy, Portugal,
and France). To be held in Bomberger Center.
November 12 - Scottish
December 10 - Yugoslavia
January 14 - Annual Meeting
February 11 - Germany

JUNE MEXICAN ETHNIC SUNDAY DELIGHTFUL

Thanks to Kay & Ed Preis and Adele & John Nellis for the splendid number of Mexican dances taught at the June Ethnic Sunday. Kay's souvenirs and Mexican dresses added greatly to the atmosphere. We especially liked their idea of posting placards of the names of dances being taught.

Thanks also to every one for the many Mexican dishes brought to the Dinner.

CLUB PERFORMANCES

The MVFD and members have responded well to requests for performances at programs and activities of organizations and plans are underway for other performances. It becomes obvious that people are becoming interested in their "Roots" including the dances of their forefathers. The program at Bergamo Center May 6 for the Parish and Neighborhood Conferences was well received as eight couples participated. Copies of the program are available if any desire to see them. Bessie Shropshire reports that eight members helped her with demonstrations as she led a discussion on Religion and Folk Dancing at the Miami Valley Unitarian Fellowship June 25. At both of these performances costumes were worn.

Rose Anna Mills is leader of a performance at the Madrid Estates for July 26 at 12:45. This is a Senior Citizen group living in a Metropolitan Housing Project. The Estates are located below Centerville.

Ann Ballinger and Vera Fisher are co-leading the performance for the Ohio Sauerkraut Festival at Waynesville, Ohio, October 14. Any one who desires to participate in this Festival and is willing to attend the three practices should contact Ann or Vera.. The practice dates and places will be forthcoming.

We are glad that Henry Henry Stovall didn't have to stay in the Hospital too long and hope that he continues to improve.

CONGRATULATIONS TO Dona Luann Hyll for winning the City Championship in Girl's Fencing.

KDI PARTY July 17 at Corinth Presbyterian Church 7:30. This will be the final party before KDI, which will be held the 1st week of August.