

Australian Clogging Association Inc- ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at the ACA National Clogging Convention,
Sydney Academy of Sports and Recreation
19 September, 2008

Minutes

<p>1. Welcome</p> <p>Debbie Selby - President of the Australian Clogging Association (ACA), officially opened the meeting at 2.05pm and welcomed all attendees.</p>
<p>2. Attendance S.Hope,N.Annand,C.Anderson,L.Frodyrna,K.Cutler,K.Speyer,M.Lambden,E.Mann,R.Krix,H.Bryan,L.Bain,G.Dicker, L.Taylor,J.Duncan,J.Buswell,S.Smith,J.Wilkinson,G.Blakeman,C.Holland,L.Rogers,K&K.Unstead,O.Borovsky,L.Smith, H.Pluke,B.Kilpatrick,J.Neal,C&B.Beitzel,P.Phillips,B.Hall,F.Look,B.McLachlan,E.Sandy,?????,E.Stratfold,J.Survey, P.O'Callaghan,M.Watt,M.Commins,L.Matthews,G.O'Loughlan,J.Newman,C.Murdoch,C.Salon,D&P.Farry,D.Sutcliffe, N.Ballard,V.Kerr,D.McGrath,J&J.Clark,M.Wood, M.Arnold,K.Rawlings</p> <p>Apologies G.Prowse,C.Waters,E.Waters,J.Stirzaker,I&J.Huddy,M.Pocervina,N.McLachlan,J.Fleming,S.Sandy,L.McGrath,D.Bradford</p>
<p>3. Minutes of Previous AGM</p> <p>There were no issues raised with the minutes of the previous AGM.</p> <p>Minutes were accepted. Moved by Marilyn Lamden, seconded by Joanna Buswell</p>
<p>4. Business Arising from the Previous Minutes</p> <p>There was no business arising from the previous minutes.</p>
<p>5. Correspondence</p> <p>The secretary advised that there were many email items – 152 with a few actual written correspondences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ PPCA survey inviting the ACA to comment - we chose not to respond with comment.▪ The ASDS terminated their insurance (public liability) coverage and advised as such – having found that it was not an adequate coverage. Consequently, the ACA was required to investigate alternative coverage.▪ The ACA was contacted by the ASDS, requesting an ACA Banner to be provided by future square dance conventions. This request was outstanding from previous years (2005).▪ Renewal of APRA – specific coverage for ACA run events – i.e. the National Convention. <p>Correspondence was accepted. Moved by Kaye Speyer, seconded by Lorraine Taylor</p>
<p>6. Business Arising from Correspondence</p> <p>ASDS ACA Banner request All agreed that the ACA should provide a banner to the ASDS' The cost was raised.</p> <p>Bev MacLachlan suggested that the ACA give them the current (old) banner and have a new one made for us.</p> <p>Debbie Selby indicated her preference for the current design (which was supported by a number of other attendees) and queried whether we could have a new one made the same. The meeting supported this suggestion.</p> <p>The meeting was advised that Mr Merv Duplock made the current banner; it was suggested that he be approached as to the possibility of having another banner made (the same as the current one). The meeting supported this suggestion.</p> <p>Action Item: Frances Look to approach Merv in regard to the possibility of him producing another banner the same as the first. If Merv is unable to do so, Frances will follow up and find someone else.</p> <p>Moved by Edith Sandy, seconded by Ruth Krix</p>

7. Reports

A number of reports were read – including the President’s report, State Representative reports for NSW, QLD, and Victoria – reports that were provided at the meeting.

Cue Sheet Coordinator – Olive Borovsky made comment on the quality of the cue sheets being provided and thanked the choreographers.

Jenny Neal – Resource Librarian – advised that all old Videos (workshops, etc.) had been transferred to DVDs, and, as such, requested support to dispose of the old videos. The meeting supported this request.

Jenny also advised that the workshops for all of the dance list routines had been compiled on to two DVDs. These are available for hire from the Library.

The chair suggested that the rest of the reports (provided with the AGM documentation) be taken as read. The meeting accepted.

Moved by Frances Look, seconded by Marilyn Lambden

8. Elections

Single nominations were received for the following positions by the due date:

Position	Nomination	First/Seconder
Treasurer	Jan Collins	Lorraine Peisley/Kathy Hedger
Secretary	Kathy Hedger	Jan Collins/Lorraine Peisley
State Representatives		
WA	Lorraine Taylor	John Clark/Janet Duncan
Vic	Lindsay Rogers	Cheryl Holland/Monika Porcevina
QLD	Stephen Hope	Olive Borovsky/Frances Look
NZ	Jean Watford	Daryl Tremain/Kathy Hedger
Cue Sheet Coordinators		
Basic/B+/Easy Int	Olive Borovsky	Jenny Neal/Frances Look
Intermediate	Jenny Neal	Do not need
Public Officer	Erica Mann	V.Dean/D.Selby
Cue Sheet Librarian	Frances Look	
Resource Librarian	Jenny & Dennis Neal	Do not need

Nominations from the floor were called for the following vacant positions:

Executive Positions:

- President
- Vice President

Non Executive Positions:

- State Representatives for
 - ACT
 - SA
 - TAS
 - NSW
 - A query in regard to Northern Territory where a new group has commenced.
- Cue Sheet Coordinator for the Intermediate Plus/Advanced Level
- Historian
- Development Coordinator
- WEB Page Coordinator
- Dance List Development
- Newsletter Editor
- Merchandise Officer

Follow Up:

Northern Territory representative – Kathy Hedger to follow up with Caroline Jamieson as to whether they would like to participate by providing a person for the role.

Cue Sheet Coordinator for the INT+/ADV level – Kathy to follow up with Irmgard Huddy (current position holder) as to her willingness to continue – a back up was sought – Del Sutcliffe. **Done** – Irmgard to continue.

9. Appointments

The following appointments were endorsed by the meeting:

Position	Nomination	First/Seconder
President	Kaye Speyer	L. Taylor/K. Hedger
Vice President	Frances Look	O. Borovsky/L. Smith
Treasurer	Jan Collins	Lorraine Peisley/Kathy Hedger
Secretary	Kathy Hedger	Jan Collins/Lorraine Peisley
State Representatives WA Vic QLD ACT SA NSW Tas NT? NZ	Lorraine Taylor Lindsay Rogers Stephen Hope Lorraine Peisley Michael Carroll Marilyn Lamden Phillip Farry Approach C. Jamieson Jean Watford	John Clark/Janet Duncan Cheryl Holland/Monika Porcevina Olive Borovsky/Frances Look J.Collins/K. Cutler I. Huddy/C. Gancarz V.Dean/J.Nicholson D.Farry/F. Look Daryl Tremain/Kathy Hedger
Cue Sheet Coordinators Basic/B+/Easy Int Intermediate Int+/Advanced	Olive Borovsky Jenny Neal Irmgard Huddy	Jenny Neal/Frances Look
Public Officer	Erica Mann	V.Dean/D.Selby
Cue Sheet Librarian	Frances Look	
Historian	Edith Sandy	
Accreditation Officer ****(See notes below)	Vickie Dean	Jason Nicholson/Kaye Speyer
Publicity and Promotions	Frances Look (i.e. the Vice President of time)	Frances Look/Bev McLachlan
WEB page	David McGrath	
Dance List Development	Secretary – to do	Is there a change to the constitution if this is to occur
Resource Librarian	Jenny & Dennis Neal	
Newletter Editor	Julie-Anne Clarke	
Merchandise Officer	Jason Nicholson	

Business Arising:

**** Development Coordinator, Dance List Development, Accreditation Development

Jason Nicholson suggested that the Development Coordinator be devoted to the development of clogging for clogging overall (in particular dancers).

He further suggested that the development of leaders was directly related to accreditation.

Steve Hope felt that the development of the leaders results in better development of clogging so it should be one position.

Jason suggested that they are two separate roles. JulieAnne Clark supported Jason.

The meeting also suggested that the Dance List Coordination should not be a separate role but rather an activity for the secretary to undertake.

Bev McLachlan queried why it couldn't be somebody who coordinates all of the arms – accreditation, development of clogging, web page development.

The meeting agreed with Jason’s proposal that the accreditation of leaders and the further development and improvement thereof be a separate role.

Publicity and promotion coordinator was suggested and agreed to by the meeting.

10. Vote of Thanks

Outgoing President – Debbie Selby thanked the outgoing position holders and those that supported the ACA throughout the previous year. In addition Debbie welcomed all position holders, existing and new and hoped that they enjoyed their roles for the coming year.

11. Special Business

Proposed Constitution Change - Jan Collins

Jan Collins, Treasurer, read out the motion and explained what the change means. As follows:

To take advantage of electronic banking arrangements, it is necessary to propose an alteration to rule 35 (2) so that the association’s bank account can be operated with a single signatory. As a control measure, all payments are approved by 2 members of the executive.

A number of changes to other sections – 1.(1), 13.(1)(b), 13.(3), 13.(4), 14.(1), 14.(2), 14.(3), 14.(5), 17 and 23.(1)(c) – are also proposed to comply with the principal change. In summary, these changes seek to define the executive as the office-bearers of the association and the state reps as a sub-committee. This is deemed necessary to clarify that approval of payments rests with the executive.

The sections with proposed changes are summarised below for your information. If you wish to read the changes in context, a copy of the ACA’s constitution may be downloaded from the ACA website.

These changes to the constitution can only be effected by a special resolution and as such all members are entitled to vote for or against the changes either in person or by proxy at the **AGM** to be held at **2pm on Friday 19th September 2008** at the **ACA 13th National Clogging Convention** at Narrabeen.

A ‘Form of Appointment of Proxy’ may be downloaded from the ACA website or obtained by request from the Secretary.

Section	Proposal	Proposed new wording
1. (1)	Addition	<i>“committee” means office-bearers of the association</i>
1. (1)	Change	“ordinary member” means a member of <i>a sub-committee</i> <SNIP>
13. (1) (b)	Change	One ordinary member from each state or territory that has members in the association <i>shall be a sub-committee</i> <SNIP>
13. (3)	Change	Each member of the committee and <i>sub-committee</i> shall, subject to these rules <SNIP>
13. (4)	Change	<SNIP> casual vacancy occurring in the membership of the committee <i>or sub-committee</i> <SNIP>
14. (1)	Change	<SNIP> candidates for election as office-bearers of the association or as ordinary members of the <i>sub-committee</i> <SNIP>
14. (2)	Change	<SNIP> received to fill all vacancies on the committee <i>or sub-committee</i> <SNIP>
14. (3)	Change	<SNIP> any vacant positions remaining on the committee <i>or sub-committee</i> <SNIP>
14. (5)	Change	<SNIP> resident within the respective state are eligible to vote for ordinary members of the <i>sub-committee</i> .
17.	Change	<SNIP> a casual vacancy in the office of a member of the committee <i>or sub-committee</i> occurs <SNIP>
23. (1) (c)	Change	to elect office-bearers of the association and ordinary members of the <i>sub-</i>

		committee <SNIP>
35. (2)	Change	All <i>electronic payments</i> , cheques, drafts, bills of exchange, promissory notes and other negotiable instruments shall be <i>approved</i> by any 2 members of the committee <SNIP>

Vote was undertaken – no against – motion carried

Moved by Jan Collins, seconded by Vickie Dean

12. Future Conventions

a. 2009 Convention report

Date of Convention is 12-14 June 2009 at the Mechanics Exhibition Centre Cannington, with 3 halls near by to each other – same complex – plenty of parking

2 Accommodation places offering discounts – Wattle Grove – 20% transport will be circling around for those that do not have any.

Perth International Tourist Park

Thursday – meet and greet – 7.30pm – main hall at the venue.

Special Guest Instructor - Janice Jestin, Arizona USA

Merchandise for sale spoons key rings and badges at the booth

A photo board of the committee

Sand Groper is the emblem.

T-shirts – black base colour with gold or white insert

Visit the booth at the 2008 convention – special prize draw for whoever registers this weekend – convention t-shirt

b. 2010 bid

Lindsay Rogers (Victorian State Representative) lodged a formal offer to the committee – that Victoria hosts the 2010 ACA National Clogging Convention.

Offer was accepted

Proposed time – September 2010 – actual dates to be advised

Jason advised that the National Square Dance Convention is in Wodonga in 2010 in June

c. 2011 Expression of Interest

Paradise Cloggers put in a tentative EOI for the 2011 National Convention to be held in Cairns.

Venues are still under investigation with only one venue appearing to be suitable

Further conversation is required with a number of people to determine size suitability

Ninna Annand spoke to this item advising that they are only a small group and would be seeking assistance from the clogging fraternity.

13. General Business

a. From the Leaders Meeting

Insurance:

Jason talked about personal insurance – Dancers (square dance) who join NSWSDS (cost is \$11 per year) will be automatically covered for personal insurance (not public liability). This is a special item that the NSWSDS has negotiated with Dance Surance. Jason asked the meeting whether it would be something of interest for the dancers – as part of their ACA membership. It was agreed that the Secretary will follow up with Dance Surance re the possibility that the same deal could be negotiated as part of our insurance cover with them. The Executive will investigate and determine the viability of this.

Action: The Secretary to contact Dance Surance and discuss. The Executive to discuss at next meeting and come back with a suggestion/recommendation.

It was agreed that the **Jazz Box** step should be added to the Basic Step List.

Action: Step list to be updated - ?????

Workshops for the ACA National Conventions:

Frances Look raised an issue where dancers/leaders who attend a number of workshop weekends throughout the year have already learnt/danced quite a number of the routines that are subsequently presented as workshops at the National. As a result, their experience at the convention is not necessarily what it should be in that there is not a lot of new material to choose from.

Frances put forward a suggestion that routines presented to be work shopped at future National Conventions be of original material that has not been taught at any other Festival.

After discussion, **the meeting agreed (in general)** that –wherever possible preference should be given to new material for work shops at future National Conventions. If a routine has been previously work shopped, it should be marked as such. The convention programming committee would use their discretion as to whether it be accepted as a workshop.

Action: The Secretary to update the convention guidelines.

Abbreviations to be included in the convention syllabus.

Speed the routine to be danced at.

Choreographer to make a designation on their cue sheets – the programming committee to take notice of this.

Basic Plus routines – allow up to three additional new steps (steps not listed on the Level 1 Step List).

Documents to be loaded on to the ACA Website:

The following documents to be loaded :

Basic Step List

Starters Kit

National Dance List Cue Sheets – a number of the dance list cue sheets are missing off the WEB.

David McGrath advised that if they were provided he could load them.

Agreed

Action: The Secretary checks the website and provides David McGrath with the cue sheets (missing ones) where possible.

Action: Vickie Dean to provide Starters Kit to David McGrath for uploading. (Is this possible?)

Action: Updated Basic Step List to be provided to David McGrath for uploading ????

b. Librarian ACA – getting rid of videos all on DVD

Jason suggested selling them at the ACA booth – Jenny said some yes others no. Debbie suggested that Jenny place an ad in the newsletter to see if anyone wants them – no charge postage only via contact to Jenny Neal.

Agreed by all. Jenny advised that over the holidays last year she went thru and extracted all workshops on the dance list – all on two DVDs – they are available for hire also some of the earlier ones.

Meeting declared closed 3.35pm.

ACTION ITEMS SUMMARY

Action Item: Frances Look to approach Merv in regard to the possibility of him producing another banner the same as the first. If Merv is unable to do so, Frances will follow up and find someone else.

Personal Insurance:

Action: The Secretary to contact Dance Surance and discuss. The Executive to discuss at next meeting and come back with a suggestion/recommendation.

Jazz Box to be included in Basic Step List:

Action: Step list to be updated - ?????

Workshop Material to be ‘new’ for convention – wherever possible

Action: The Secretary to update the convention guidelines.

Action: The Secretary checks the website and provides David McGrath with the cue sheets (missing ones) where possible for National Dance List.

Action: Vickie Dean to provide Starters Kit to David McGrath for uploading. (Is this possible?)

Action: Updated Basic Step List to be provided to David McGrath for uploading ????

Action: Changes to the Constitution presented by Jan Collins to be done – E.Mann **Done**

Agenda Item 3: Previous Minutes

**AUSTRALIAN CLOGGING ASSOCIATION INC
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 31ST AUGUST, 2007
At Exhibition Park In Canberra**

1. Welcome

The meeting was declared open by the President, Julie-Anne Clark, at 2.10pm

2. Attendance and Apologies

As per attendance book

3. Minutes of Previous AGM

Minutes were tabled and accepted as an accurate record. Moved Kaye Speyer
Seconded Irmgard Huddy Carried

4. Business Arising from the Previous Minutes

Nil

5. Correspondence

Secretary Tabled correspondence list
Moved correspondence be accepted – David Dann
Seconded – Donna Farry Carried

6. Business Arising from Correspondence

Nil

7. Reports

Reports were tabled or read as per the attached list

Treasurers Report - Balance Sheet was read to meeting and will be included in Newsletter
Presidents Report
State Reports – Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, NSW, Queensland, New Zealand
Library Report
Moved by Linda McGrath that reports be accepted
Seconded Frances Look Carried

8. Elections

The following single nominations were received had been received by the due date:

President – Debbie Selby
Vice President – Vickie Dean
Secretary – Kathy Hedger
Western Australia State Rep – Lorraine Taylor
Queensland State Rep – Stephen Hope
New Zealand Rep – Jean Watford

Nominations were called from the floor for:

Treasurer – Jan Collins Nominated Linda McGrath Seconded Kaye Speyer
Tasmania State Rep – Donna Farry Nominated Frances Look Seconded Edith Sandy
South Australia State Rep – Michael Carroll Nominated Irmgard Huddy Seconded Keith Unstead
Victoria State Rep Lindsay Rogers Nominated Val Kerr Seconded Marilyn Commins
ACT State Rep – MaryJo Shawcross Nominated Jan Collins Seconded Jason Nicholson
NSW State Rep – Jason Nicholson Nominated Linda McGrath Seconded Jenny Neal
There being no further nominations those nominated were duly elected.

9. Appointments

The following appointments were confirmed by the meeting:

Cue Sheet checkers Basic Plus – Olive Borovsky
Intermediate – Jenny Neal
Inter+ /Adv – Irmgard Huddy
Development coordinator - Stephen Hope
Newsletter Editor – Julie-Anne Clark
Webpage editor – David McGrath
Cue Sheet Librarian – Frances Look
Video Librarian Jenny and Dennis Neal

Public Officer – Linda McGrath NB Linda requests that someone seriously consider taking this position next year.
Square dance Review Liaison – Frances Look

10. Vote Of thanks

Julie-Anne offered her thanks to the previous committee for their assistance. She also thanked the dancers for their support.

11. Special Business

Change to Convention Rules and Guidelines

Rule 11.1 to read:

The ACA holds Public Liability Insurance, Equipment Insurance (for ACA owned Equipment) and Equipment in Transit Insurance (for borrowed equipment) The committee is responsible for establishing any additional insurance which may be required by the venue.

Rule 11.2 to read:

Copyright coverage for APRA, PPCA and AMCOS/ARIA is held by the ACA. Any additional licences are the responsibility of the convention committee.

Motion to change rules carried by show of hands

12. General Business

Report from 2008 Convention

David McGrath presented a verbal report. Convention to be held 19th – 21st September 2008 at Sydney Academy of Sport. Guest Instructor will be Eric Bice from California. The committee has made arrangements for accommodation to be available at the venue on the Thursday night before convention but anyone interested must request a booking now. Meetings will commence at 10am on Friday next year.

Bid for 2009 convention

Joanna Buswell read the bid from Western Australia to host the 14th National Clogging Convention. Bid accepted.

Expression of Interest 2010 convention

Victoria expressed an interest to hold this convention.

ACA Web Page Hosting

A report relating to the ACA's web page hosting was tabled by David McGrath. The ACA has decided to change its web page hosting to Smartyhost. This will provide extra web space and more features, which can be utilised for the benefit of members. There was a request that all ACA convention cue sheets be posted on the website. The difficulty with this is that each individual leader would need to give permission for their cue sheet to be posted. It was suggested that permission could be requested on the ACA membership form. Following much discussion it was suggested that a policy regarding cue sheets be developed.

ACA Dance List

Following a brief report from Kathy Hedger regarding the process of Dance List voting, it was moved by Kathy Hedger that a set of guidelines for the ACA dance list voting be developed by Kathy Hedger in consultation with the ACA executive. Seconded Kaye Speyer Motion Carried

Development Coordinator

There was some discussion of the role of the development coordinator. This role needs to be clarified. In the short term Stephen Hope and Kathy Hedger need to discuss who is to take responsibility for what specific tasks.

Accreditation

Vickie Dean spoke of the ACA Leader Accreditation Programme and informed the meeting that seminars and leader assessments would be taking place during the convention.

Clogging Dictionary

Phillip Farry requested that anyone with a clogging dictionary who has not received an electronic update during the last six months contact him to update their details.

Privacy

It was suggested by Bev McLachlan that anyone who is teaching a routine in public which is not their own should have gained permission from the choreographer to do so.

Basic Plus Routines

John Clark recommended that leaders post Basic Plus level routines on the ACA web site so other leaders can access them to try. If leaders wish to do this they can email the web site editor, David McGrath.

10 Year Badges

Keith Unstead asked if anything further had happened regarding ten year bars or badges. These are still a work in progress.

Date of next AGM:

19th September 2008 at 2pm in Sydney

Agenda Item 7: Reports

Treasurer's Report 2008 - Jan Collins

The Association can now accept payment by Visa and Mastercard. A VPos facility was established at the beginning of this year. Thanks to Linda McGrath for doing the investigative work to get this happening. VPos is an abbreviation for 'virtualpoint of sale'; it allows the Association to upload a file of credit card payment details to a secure bank website. A credit appears in the ACA's bank account a couple of days later. Only Visa and Mastercard credit cards are accepted by the ACA due to the higher costs involved with other cards. An arrangement was put in place between the 13th National Convention Committee and the ACA Treasurer, whereby Convention registration payments made by credit card were processed by me and the funds then transferred from the ACA's bank account to the Convention's bank account. This has worked fairly smoothly, with a considerable number of registrants taking advantage of this payment method. The same arrangement will be available to all future Convention committees. Many members have also chosen to pay their membership fees by credit card. The Association is offering this, without applying a surcharge, as a service to its members. Payment by credit card will also be accepted for any bulk purchases of merchandise at this Convention.

Another banking related change instigated this year was the operation of the ACA's bank account with a single signatory. As a control measure, all payments are still approved by two Committee members. This was necessary to take advantage of electronic banking arrangements, in particular to make bill payments by BPay and Funds Transfer. I have proposed a number of changes to the Constitution to formalise these operational arrangements. Since the change was put in place at the bank, only 2 out of 26 payments have been made by cheque. Funds transfer is the preferred method of payment as it saves postage costs and the monitoring of unrepresented cheques. As a recipient of reimbursement payments from the ACA, I personally find this method more convenient than having to go to the bank to deposit a cheque.

The Association's financial situation is still quite healthy. At the end of the financial year, the ACA had a bank balance of approximately \$48,000 – comprising \$6,000 in general funds and \$42,000 in convention funds. This has now grown to approximately \$52,000 with the large influx of membership renewal payments during June and July and interest on the Term Deposit which matured on 28 August 2008. \$40,000 has been reinvested for 6 months at 7.5%.

Income from membership fees shows an increase over last year but this is due to the cyclical nature of two year memberships. As at the end of April 2008, the Association had 410 financial members. At the same time in 2006, financial members numbered 425. Since April, the Association has gained some new members and renewed some lapsed ones by specific targeting with personalized invitations. Sending out personal renewal notices is very effective and needs to be done each year. However, it doesn't change the fact that membership numbers are relatively static and have been for several years.

Production and distribution of the Newsletter continues to constitute the Association's largest single expense; in 2007/2008 this was approximately \$4,200. Printing costs have increased and it might be prudent to review the frequency of the Newsletter over the coming year. Traditionally, the December and February issues are rather 'light on' and their value needs to be questioned. Of course, if more members opt to receive electronic newsletters, then both printing and postage costs will be reduced. Of the 410 members at 30 April 2008, 114 received electronic newsletters, 227 received hardcopy newsletters and the balance of 69 were family members who did not receive a newsletter.

Bank charges show an increase this year and this is mainly due to the additional charges incurred with the VPos Facility, including establishment fees that will not be incurred in future years. On-going costs will be monitored to ensure that the Association can continue to offer membership payments by credit card without application of a surcharge.

As the Committee has agreed that the Association's accounts should be kept simple, the financial statements are prepared on a cash basis; non-current assets and liabilities are not recorded with this basis of accounting. Some adjustments were required this year to write off assets that had been reported in the Balance Sheet last year.

There are no other significant items to explain or highlight but I would be happy to answer any questions that arise from members. The audited financial statements for the ACA's financial year 1 May 2007 to 30 April 2008 are attached.

Jan Collins
28 August 2008

President's Report 2008 - Deborah Selby

This year will see many instructors receive their long awaited Australian Clogging Instructors Accreditation. This Accreditation has been achieved through the dedication of those running the programme and all members of the Accreditation Committee who have so enthusiastically taken up their position. The benefit to the leaders receiving these awards has been twofold. Firstly, the Accreditation provides physical proof of the achievements of the leader. Secondly, The Clogging Association also benefits because the leaders will become better equipped to lead their classes and promote clogging throughout Australia. Congratulations to those leaders who will receive their awards this year. You will now be able to use the appropriate letters after your name if you wish to do so. The Clogging Association hopes that in the future all leaders will choose to participate in this programme and would also like to encourage any up and coming cuers and leaders to seriously consider undertaking the Accreditation.

Other exciting news this year has been a grant that the Australian Clogging Association will receive from the Commonwealth Government to help expand Clogging within the Northern Territory. Although full details are not to hand the grant will be overseen by The Australian Clogging Association and Louise Frodyma from the ACT who has been appointed to liaise with the current dancers in the Northern Territory. Maybe by the 14th National Clogging Convention in Perth in 2009 we will see a showcase from the Northern Territory.

This year we will also see the introduction of 15 year dancer badges. These badges will be presented to those dancers who have been dancing for 15 years and also been a member of The Australian Clogging Association for 15 years. There will be 15 dancers who will be presented with their badges at this Convention.

I would personally like to thank the members of the Executive who continued on this year on my behalf and under difficult circumstances.

As we embark on our 13th National Clogging Convention in Sydney in 2008. Who would have thought so many years ago as the 1st Convention was held at the YMCA Camp at Yarramundi with 120 attendees we would still be holding Conventions 13 years later having grown to around 380 attendees and with 4 clogging halls running all weekend. Congratulations should go to all those members of the Australian Clogging Association who through dedication and hard work keep Clogging alive as an activity that is healthy and continually growing.

Deborah Selby
President

Resource Librarians Report - Dennis and Jenny Neal

When all these boxes arrived at our house we really wondered what we (I) had got us into. However, after spending the summer break putting ALL the videos on to DVD it is not so bad. Some of the older Videos in the library have deteriorated badly and have got to a point where they are nearly unable to be watched. They won't get any worse on DVD though. I do wonder if it is worth keeping all the old videos now that they are on DVD? Maybe this should be addressed through the AGM.

The other little project we undertook was to go through all the videos and make 2 DVDs with the 2008 National Dance list on them. This means that on one DVD there is all (that are available) the Basic/Basic+ and Easy Intermediate video teaches. On the other there is all (that are available) the Intermediate/Intermediate+ and Advanced video teaches. We have had quite a good response from those who have borrowed these DVDs. With Oz being such a big country not everyone has the good fortune to attend all or any of the fun weekends we have around the country and all choreographers have there own little way that they like there routine to be done. This can not always be shown on the cue sheet alone.

To keep it updated now we only need to add each years new dances.

The library has been used over 20 times since we have started looking after it.

We would like to take this opportunity to encourage ACA to use this service more often. Even if only to watch & enjoy some of the older demos & showcases. After all it is only \$5.

Jenny & Dennis Neal
Librarians

State Representative Reports:

Western Australia – Lorraine Taylor

Hi Everyone,

Here in the West, we are all cruising along. Quite a few of us are getting ourselves ready for the Sydney National, which is where you'll get to read this report.

Whilst Winter in the West tends to send some of our dancers further north to warmer places to be for a few weeks/months, the rest of us continue to dance and enjoy our clogging.

The Committee for the 14th National ACA Convention which is to be held in Perth next year, is busy organizing all the things which need to be done to make for a successful Convention. We recently had a Christmas in July dance to check out the hall for sound. We weren't able to use the main hall on the day, but used the second hall, which is next door. It has a great floor, is nice and bright and the sound was really good. We had a good attendance with wine-tasting and afternoon tea available for all. The weather outside was pretty foul, but the atmosphere in the hall was great.

We are hoping that as many dancers as possible will make it over here next year for our Convention and our aim is to make it a memorable one for all.

Keep spreading the word.....and clog on.
Cheers.....Lorraine

New Zealand – Jean Watford

NZCA Annual Report to ACA

Another successful year of clogging in New Zealand. Last October a new club opened in Christchurch with a small but enthusiastic group of ladies lead by Zilla Steele. Zilla did some clogging in Melbourne a few years ago. She is planning to get out and about with demos and so encourage new people to join her group. All the other clubs have had beginners join them during the year.

The Auckland convention held on 1-3 August was a very successful weekend. Held at two adjacent venues, giving us three workshops with wooden floors, proved to be venues worth considering for future conventions. While we might be small in numbers, the warm friendly atmosphere is obvious as we greet well known cloggers from around New Zealand catching up on the years' news, and especially welcoming cloggers from around Australia, equally catching up on news. It was a pleasure to have David McGrath as our guest instructor. From easy to advanced he left us with dances of all levels. Not only did we have the pleasure of his teaching, but also dancing two solo dances for us. We know he had a great time too.

Next year the NZCA convention will be in Motueka on 31st July – 2nd August. Registration packs are available this weekend.

Here at the Sydney convention we have a group of twelve cloggers from around New Zealand, ten from Auckland, one from Nelson and one from Invercargill. We're looking forward to a busy weekend.

From all NZCA members, we wish the ACA a very successful 2008 Clogging Convention.
Jean Watford, ACA State Rep for NZ

Australian Capital Territory – Maryjo Shawcross

After a busy year in 2007 organising the 12th National Clogging Convention, Silver Soles Cloggers has had yet another exciting year. The big event in May this year was the Silver Soles Cloggers Club moving to a new studio called "Dance Edge" in Kambah. Louise and her daughter Meg run a variety of popular dance classes in the new studio.

Clogging has continued to flourish in the ACT with the Graduation of New Cloggers at Dance Edge Studio on 24 May. In addition, a new adult beginners clogging class was also established in July this year.

Silver Soles Cloggers have participated in successful demonstrations at various Town Centres and Community Centres in Canberra. They have also performed at "Pumps for Patch" Gala night in July and travelled to Sydney to dance at the Dancexpo in Homebush. Performance teams are also booked to perform at Floriade, Boorowa Woolfest and Cootamundra.

Capital Cloggers has had a quiet year commencing with losing their venue – causing a flurry to find another suitable dance place. Not to panic they are now dancing settled in a new venue – surrounded by gym equipment – occasionally dancers (and family members) can be seen bouncing on the trampoline – have not ventured to anything else yet! No new beginners yet – but have kept our small group going.

Kathy has spent the past three months recovering from extensive surgery on her feet. So no dancing there. It has been great to see up and coming cuers/leaders Kylie Cutler and Rebecca Peisley stepping and keeping us dancing.

Capital Cloggers joined Yass Country Cloggers for the River Festival – marching in the parade followed by a display.

Cheers for now – Maryjo Shawcross.

South Australia – Michael Carroll

It has been a busy year for Adelaide Bluegrass Cloggers' who have new metropolitan clogging venue in Glenelg and is producing some enthusiastic and talented Cloggers, some of whom have already progressed to the demonstration team. Our Gilles Plains venue where we have been dancing for more than 11 years has now been turned into office space. Fortunately, Cloggers are enjoying the new Ingle Farm location which is only ten minutes away. We are also looking for a new location for Clogtober, our weekend workshop, which has been held in Tatchilla since 2000. The site, which is unfortunately being sold, has a wonderful old wooden-floored hall and will be sorely missed. Finally, Linda and Malcolm Threadgold, who have been fabulous supporters of our club, have moved to Couch's Beach on Yorke Peninsula. Linda will still attend classes here and there, but her administrative and managerial skills will be hard to replace. We wish them well and know they'll enjoy their beautiful new home. Also we would also like to congratulate Adelaide bluegrass Cloggers for celebrating their 14th birthday in march and also C & A Cloggers who celebrated their 10TH birthday in February also congratulations to Irmgard who also taught at last year's convention in the usa which would have been a real highlight for such an enthusiastic clogger.

Michael Carroll

SA state rep.

State Representative reports for Queensland, Victoria and New South Wales were provide by S. Hope, L. Rogers and J. Nicholson respectively – in paper format and distributed at the meeting.

Cue Sheet Coordinators Reports

Basic, Basic Plus, Easy Intermediate - Olive Borovsky

Over a year has passed since we launched into 'All A.C.A. stamped cuesheets using the same format and step definitions' and my congratulations to all Aussie Choreographers for their aptitude, perseverance and tolerance of the new team's efforts. Most dances passing through my hands for ACA stamping have very little to be corrected in them now and any changes I deem to make, are always met with goodwill and open to discussion.

Most frequent omissions in the cuesheets have been :

In the heading :

- Sequence – Sometimes a repeat section is left off the quick cues – sequence verifies 'parts'.
- Number of beats to wait before dancing
- Any variation desired in the speed of the music should be mentioned here.

Quick Cues Page:

- Number of beats in 'parts' eg PART A (32 beats) – Should match count of steps in that section..
- * Number of beats in 'step' eg. 8 SAMANTHA – Also necessary for cuers who call to the count (sight cueing- when not dancing).

It was remarked to me that the new regime stifled originality in choreography. My opinion is the cuesheet is a document format and the originality is within the document, made clear for everyone to read. I am constantly amazed at the scope of steps and configurations choreographers can come up with, within the framework of their dance level.

For the statically minded, there have been 186 cuesheets checked in this mixed level since I began in early 2007 to June 2008. My apologies to those poor souls who use computer concepts other than WORD. (Unfortunately, my enthusiasm for the task is not matched by my computer skills) However, you have all risen to the occasion and we've sorted it out between us.

I cannot recommend highly enough the ACA dictionary available from Donna & Philip Farry. It is simplicity itself to use (even for a computer illiterate like myself) and if you intend to write a few dances, it is money well spent at the cost of \$30. Philip supplies constant updates with new steps from the submitted cuesheets. Email :

philipfarry@yahoo.com.au

I hope we will all continue to enjoy our recreation and share our skills, with the camaraderie and spirit of fun that clogging is all about, for many years.

Olive Borovsky
Cuesheet Checker

Intermediate - Jenny Neal

Since starting this (rather daunting) job in 2007 I am pleased to say that the Aussie Choreographers have been great in adapting to the use of all cue sheets being in the same format.

Most dances that come through have needed very little corrections. Although it seems that everyone likes to make a new step for each dance when writing in the Intermediate level. That alone can be a challenge in finding them. I am always amazed at how so many people can come up with a step that is similar BUT not the same.

I cannot recommend enough, the use of the ACA Dictionary from Donna & Phillip Farry. Anybody wishing to choreograph a routine should invest in this most useful & easy to use tool. It will be the best \$30 you will spend. .

Email : philipfarry@yahoo.com.au

Any changes that I have had to be make have always been met with a good response from the choreographer and I sincerely thank them for this. I have had no negative response from anyone.

I also find the most common omissions the same as for the Basic/Easy Int Level.

In the heading :

- Sequence – Sometimes a repeat section is left off the quick cues – sequence verifies ‘parts’.
- Number of beats to wait before dancing
- Any variation desired in the speed of the music should be mentioned here.

Quick Cues Page:

- Number of beats in ‘parts’ eg PART A (32 beats) – Should match count of steps in that section..
- * Number of beats in ‘step’ eg. 8 SAMANTHA – Also necessary for cuers who call to the count (sight cueing- when not dancing).

For those wanting statistics since January 2007 there have been 93 Intermediate cue sheets with 229 new steps created.

I hope we all continue to enjoy our fun and friendly dance form for many years & I look forward to seeing more inspirational routines that we can all enjoy.

Jenny Neal
Cue Sheet Checker