

Dance Committee Meeting

Friday, November 12, 2010

Attendees: Ed LaBrash (GWGRA), Lorry King (NGRA), Ray Ostmann (GWGRA), Kim Fry (CGRA), Wade Earp (TGRA), David Hallwood (MIGRA), Amy Griffin (ILGRA), John Paul Soto (GSGRA); Chair Ernie Bowers (LGRA)

The 2011 IGRA Dance Competition and classes will be held at IGRA University in St. Louis, Missouri on January 14-16, 2011. We invite all members to come celebrate the tradition of Country/Western dance in our community. The music and dance selections for the competition are in the process of being updated on the IGRA Web site and registration will be starting shortly. For those people interest in competing or helping out with the competition, please contact myself or Wade Earp for more information. The chair greatly appreciates the help of Wade Earp and Lorry King as well as the GWGRA who are assisting with IGRA University.

A proposal from outside the committee was brought to a vote to alleviate the dance committee and competition from IGRA. After a discussion on the impact of dance on the members of IGRA and the community, as well as options to reduce the already small cost of the event, the proposal was unanimously voted down. The committee understands the intent of streamlining costs, however dismantling a part of IGRA's community that has been instrumental in the development of the Association and its membership is not the right course.

Various options for promoting both the IGRA Dance Competition as well as dance in IGRA in general were discussed, such as reaching out to the local community in St. Louis for the event, as well as country bars across our footprint to promote the community for the rest of the year. Ernie Bowers suggested setting up a Facebook group as a subgroup from IGRA's for the dance community to connect as well as promote events nationwide.

For the competition in January, plans for recruiting judges and instructors as well as logistical needs for the event were discussed. As members of the IGRA family, the committee asks the associations for help in promoting the competition within their membership. If any association, company, or individual would be interested in sponsoring buckles or ribbons, please contact the Chair. We are excited about the interest shown by the local St. Louis community in the competition, classes, and University, and believe that it will help grow IGRA in total.

No rule changes or requirements were brought up to change at this meeting. The changes from last year's convention are updated on the IGRA Web site.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ernie Bowers
IGRA Dance Chair