ASK ARTS # 9

By Del Reed Alliance of Round, Traditional, and Square Dance

(October 23, 2007)

Dear ARTS,

I finally remembered to check the ARTS-DANCE website and came across something called Dance America. Exactly how will this work? Also, you have said in previous columns there are other fund raising projects in the works for ARTS, but I haven't heard anything about them in my area.

Waiting in Wyoming

Dear Waiting,

Dance America, a nationwide benefit dance, is actually a large number of dances being held on the same day, February 29, 2008. This date, Leap Year Day, stood out as a special day for a special dance and was designated a National Day of Dance.

State and regional organizations, as well as local clubs, and individuals are planning and sponsoring dances to be held simultaneously in each region. Hopefully, organizations will donate use of a dance hall and callers/cuers will donate their fees for the event, with all proceeds going to ARTS for nationwide promotional activities.

In addition, these benefit dances will provide opportunities for local publicity, which raises awareness of the presence of the dance activity in local areas.

Please, join us in our fundraising efforts to help us finance the cost of a nationwide publicity campaign! Support or organize a Dance America event and list your dance on the ARTS website and report the number of attendees so we can total the number of dancers for that day. Downloadable promotional materials are available at www.arts-dance.org.

Other fundraising projects currently underway, are the Add A Buck Program, where dances/festivals ask participants for voluntary donations of \$1.00, and YTB travel website which generates income to ARTS when travel is booked at no additional cost to the buyer. I will be elaborating more on these subjects in subsequent articles. I would encourage membership in ARTS, also, as a way to support fundraising. It will take the efforts of many people to get the word out about our wonderful activity! Thanks!

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ARTS-DANCE

Please direct any questions for ASK ARTS to Del Reed at 321-633-1306, or e-mail to: askarts@arts-dance.org

(NEWS FLASH - 2007-2008 ARTS Officers Have Been Elected. Congratulations to the following: Mike Jacobs, Chairman; Scott Philips, Vice Chairman; Edythe Weber, Treasurer, and Jerry Reed, Secretary)