

M.V.D.C Honor Roll Dancer(s) Nomination for 2008

Nominating Club Miami Valley Folk Dancers (MVFD)
Name, Address, & Phone of Couple/Person(s) Carolyn Stovall, 937-427-2120 251 Honey Jane Dr., Beavercreek, OH 45434
Number of Years Dancing Over 60 years, 46 of those years with MVFD
Club Elected Positions and Years Held (Pres., VP, Sec., etc.) Chairperson - 2 years (1979, 2000) Vice-Chairperson - 1 year (1978) Secretary - 3 years (1992, 1993, 1994) Member at Large - 5 years (1963, 1964, 1995, 1996, 1997)
Club Appointed Positions and Years Held (Kitchen Chairperson, etc.) Beginners Class Chair - 6 years (1997 - 2003) Program Committee Member - 3 years (1977, 1982/83, 1984/85) Weekend Workshop Chair - 5 years (1978, 1979, 1983, 1991, 1994) Representative to MVDC - 3 years (1979, 1980, 1996) New Year's Eve Party Chair - 1 year (2002)
Service at Club Level (Kitchen, Greeters, Clean-up, Decorate, etc.) <u>Instigator</u> – In 1963, Carolyn pushed the club to begin keeping track of the dances being taught and danced at our regular dances. We still do this today. This helps newer members learn our repertoire, helps our teachers decide what dances need to be retaught, and helps our members plan their dance programs. (A different member of the club plans the dance program each week.) <u>Proofreader</u> for our 4 year project (2000 - 2004) to convert over 50 years of workshop syllabi into electronic media. The club has earned over \$1000 from sales of this media. In 2002, she compiled a <u>collection</u> of dance instructions for dances taught in the beginner's class. <u>Publicity Display</u> - In 2000, Carolyn developed MVFD display materials to help attract new dancers. She took this display to various festivals, demos, and other functions and was very successful in attracting a new wave of dancers into our club.
Number of Raids and Retrievals Not Applicable - MVFD can not participate in Raids & Retrievals

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Special Activities (Organize or Assist with Demos, Weekend & Week long Workshops, Special Dances, Parades, World A'Fair, State Fair, Festivals, etc.)

Demos - From 2000-2003, Carolyn was in charge of demos for MVFD. This included several years of demos at the Dayton International Festival, Sinclair's Appalachia Day Celebration, and Centerville's July 4th celebration. She gave up her Saturday mornings to prepare club dancers for these demos.

Dance Workshops & Camps - Always looking to expand her dance experience and knowledge, Carolyn has participated in too many workshops to list. However, she has traveled the US and the world (or from Maine to Macedonia) in her search for more knowledge.

Dayton International Festival - Carolyn has served as First Vice President, Secretary (8 years), and Publicity Committee for this organization, and spearheaded a drive to save the festival when parties were trying to shut it down in 1995. She has also served as the South Slavic Club representative to the festival.

Zivio Slavic Dancers - For many years, Carolyn was a member of the Zivio Slavic Dancers, performing locally and traveling with the group to Yugoslavia in 1987.

Transylvania Folk Dancers, Kentucky - While Carolyn attended college at Transylvania University in Kentucky, she was active with the Transylvania Folk Dancers and attended dance workshops at Berea College.

Introduction of Students to Dance - One of Carolyn's most important activities was teaching recreational dance as part of her curriculum as a physical education teacher in Huber Heights elementary schools. For eight of those years she also directed an extra- curricular dance group that each year gave an evening dance performance for the school community. These students also danced at Court House Square and the Dayton International Festival.

M.V.D.C Position and Years Held (Pres., VP, Treasurer, Trustee, etc.)

Secretary - 4 years (1997, 1998, 2006, 2007)

Participant in several Council Day in the Park Demos

Participant in several Michael Solomon Pavilion Cleaning Days

Representative to MVDC - 3 years (1979, 1980, 1996)

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State & National Positions and Years Held (State Corp, State & National Convention Positions, etc.)

1995 Ohio Buckeye Dance Convention - Member of Convention Committee, Chair of Folk Dancing

2001 Ohio Buckeye Dance Convention - led 2 sessions on folk dancing for beginners, and 2 sessions of folk dancing for experienced dancers

State & National Conventions Attended

Ohio: 1991, 1995, 2001, 2006

In addition to Ohio conventions, Carolyn has attended many folk dance camps and workshops throughout the US and the world.

Attach a Write Up (Include all information about applicant that might be of importance to the Selection Committee)

**MUST BE TURNED IN TO THE COUNCIL SECRETARY BY THE
NOVEMBER COUNCIL MEETING!**

8/26/00

Write Up

Carolyn Stovall became a member of the Miami Valley Folk Dancers (MVFD) in 1961, bringing an already impressive background in folk dancing to the group. Her interest in dance began as a child. She had an early wish “to be the fastest feet in Scioto County.” Her love of dancing continued through her college years at Transylvania University (KY), where she danced with the Transylvania Folk Dancers and attended workshops at Berea College.

By the late 1970s, Carolyn had assumed a leadership role within MVFD and has remained active ever since. Through her 46 years with MVFD, she has served as Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Workshop Chair, Representative to the MVDC, and Member-at-Large. She has served on many committees, including Program Committee, New Year’s Eve Party Chair, Syllabus Conversion Committee, Demo Organizer, and Publicity Committee. In fact, she was responsible for creating the club’s current publicity displays which she used very successfully to generate interest in our club. She has served in many of these positions several times.

From 1997 through 2003, as an unpaid volunteer, Carolyn organized and taught MVFD’s beginners class. In 2002, she collected written dance instructions for all the dances she had taught and made them available to class members. When Carolyn finally “retired” from teaching the class, the MVFD Chair at the time had this to say – “Certain qualities are required of anyone who dares to single-handedly take on the beginner’s class: reliability, consistency, punctuality, excellent teaching skills, thorough knowledge of the dances, careful preparation, excellent people skills, and excellent organizational skills.” He noted that we were blessed by having Carolyn who possessed all these qualities and that the club had grown significantly as a

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direct result of her dedication and hard work.

Carolyn's interest in expanding her knowledge of dance has taken her throughout the US and the world. She has eagerly attended workshops and camps, from Maine to Macedonia. And she has been instrumental in bringing quality instructors to Dayton.

In the 1990s, Carolyn became involved with the Miami Valley Dance Council, serving 4 terms as Secretary. Through MVDC, she has taken special interest in the Michael Solomon Pavilion (MSP), participating in MSP cleaning days. She was instrumental in alerting area dancers to a threat to the Pavilion that occurred with proposed improvements to the Community Golf Course, and researched history of the Pavilion in support of keeping it. She was also a member of the Council's 1995 Ohio Buckeye Dance Convention Committee serving as the Chair of Folk Dancing for the Convention. In 2001, Carolyn participated in the Convention by leading folk dance sessions for both beginning and experienced dancers.

But Carolyn's leadership has not been limited to MVFD and MVDC. For many years she danced with the Zivio Slavic Dancers, performing locally and in Yugoslavia. She has been active with the Dayton International Festival, serving in various positions, and spearheading a drive to save the festival in the mid-90s. Perhaps most important of all was her leadership as a physical education teacher in Huber Heights elementary schools. For over 10 years, she included recreational dance as part of the physical education curriculum, thereby introducing hundreds of students to recreational dance.

Carolyn's dedication to the recreational dance activity in the Dayton area cannot be denied. Her contributions of time and talent have been significant. She sees something that needs to be done and she does it. Her enthusiasm for all kinds of dance has been much appreciated, not only by MVFD, but by MVDC members, by her former students, and by the general public whom she encourages to join in. The Miami Valley Folk Dancers are honored to have Carolyn Stovall as a very long time member, proud to name her the club's 2008 Honor Roll Dancer, and even more proud to nominate her for 2008 MVDC Honor Roll Dancer.