

November 9, 2010 - Historian Report to Dance Council – Leslie Hyll

My intent is to perform as an archivist as much as a historian. The archivist identifies, preserves, and makes records accessible for use, while the historian uses archival records for research. My early emphasis in this position will be as an archivist, to identify and preserve the artifacts that we currently have, and then to make those artifacts accessible for research on a website. I will also be looking for artifacts to add to the archive – anything that will help a researcher understand our history.

I've received artifacts from previous Historian – these include meeting minutes, flyers, newspaper articles, banners from clubs that no longer exist, posters, certificates, awards, photos, etc. I am requesting budget to purchase archival storage supplies so that the physical artifacts may be better preserved.

I am currently reviewing, sorting, and preparing the paper artifacts to be scanned into an electronic format. I also intend to work on preserving artifacts that live on the walls of the Pavilion, so please don't be alarmed if something disappears off of the wall. I am particularly concerned that the Honor Roll Dancers need preservation attention. The oldest awards are looking very shabby and are the only copy we have of those awards.

I need your help! There are many holes in the archives. Do you or someone you know have artifacts? Artifacts tend to look like old pieces of paper that should be thrown in the trash. If in doubt, Don't throw it out! Anything having to do with the Miami Valley Dance Council, or a member club is of interest. Old newsletters, flyers, minutes, photos, banners, whatever. Don't assume that we already have it. Feel free to bring it to me at a Council meeting. Or leave it for me in the Pavilion.

Thank you for your support.