

ASK ARTS # 10

By Del Reed
Alliance of Round, Traditional, and Square Dance
(August 25, 2008)

Dear ARTS,

We heard there were a number of "Dance America" benefit dances across the United States. Tony Oxendine called ours in Merritt Island, FL on Feb. 8th and raised \$855 for ARTS-Dance. People came from as far away as 150 miles to attend. How much money was raised altogether for ARTS by these events?

Thanks,
Space Coast Dancer

Dear Space Coast Dancer,

I am pleased to report the success of the first annual "Dance America," fundraiser held for the ARTS-Dance organization. Twenty-one area dances were held and \$9,576 was raised altogether! The Denver, CO area donated \$250 but did not hold a dance so as not to compete with local clubs, and the Laurel Mountain Federation, PA was snowed out, but 6 clubs in the federation made donations totaling \$189 anyway.

Many thanks to all those who organized dances and those who supported them! Approximately 1,904 dancers attended and 103 callers provided entertainment. Hopefully, these benefit dances provided opportunities for local publicity, thus raising awareness of the presence of the dance activity in local areas.

At the most recent ARTS meeting at the Wichita National Convention, we voted to make these dances an annual event. These fundraising efforts will eventually help finance the cost of a nationwide publicity campaign.

Please check our website at www.arts-dance.com.

Thank you,
ARTS-DANCE

Please direct any questions for "Ask ARTS" to Del Reed at 321-633-1306 or e-mail to www.askarts@arts-dance.org