

# **Make Magic**

**The 18th Annual IAGSDC® Convention  
April 12 - 15, 2001  
Vancouver, Canada**

**A Book Of Memories**



Squares Across the Border is proud to present...



The 18th Annual IAGSDC® Convention  
The Westin Bayshore Hotel & Resort  
Vancouver, Canada  
April 12 - 15, 2001

FEATURING

Tim Crawford  
Ben Rubright  
Ron Booiman  
Ray Brendzy  
Vic Cedar

Anne Uebelacker  
Steve Edlund  
Todd Fellegly  
Bronc Wise  
Tom Miller

and  
Featured Callers from the Gay Callers Association

ウェルカム・トゥ・メイク・マジック



## From the IAGSDC® Chair

### International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs, Inc. A Lesbian and Gay Organization

2000-01 Board of Directors

April 2001

Scott Parker  
Chairperson

Scott Philips  
Vice Chairperson

Michael Deets  
Secretary

Mel Heupel  
Treasurer

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the **International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs (IAGSDC®)** I would like to welcome you to the 18th Annual IAGSDC® Convention, **Make Magic**. I would also like to take this opportunity to publicly thank the **Make Magic Committee** for all the time, energy, and devotion that was required to make this event a reality. Additionally, I encourage all those in attendance to express your gratitude to the convention chairs, committee chairs, and committee members for voluntarily giving part of their busy lives so that we, as a community, have the opportunity to join together in their beautiful city to celebrate the art of Square Dancing.

For the past eighteen years our community has gathered together to participate in what is now, for many, an annual tradition. On a personal note, Vancouver marks a very special milestone for my partner, Gordon and me. **Make Magic** is our tenth IAGSDC® Convention! During our first convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, the "convention bug" bit us. Each year since, we have anxiously looked forward to yet another opportunity to travel to a new and exciting city, meet with old friends, develop new friendships, and kick up our heels on the dance floor.

My wish for those attending **Make Magic** is that you make the most of your time in Vancouver. We have been given the golden opportunity of participating in one of our favorite activities in a beautiful location with the people that we love. It is your duty and your responsibility to take advantage of what has been presented to you.

Whether you are attending your first, seventh, or eighteenth convention, I hope you truly enjoy your experience in Vancouver.

See you in a square,

Scott Parker  
2000-02 IAGSDC® Chairperson



## From the Co-Chairs



### Welcome to Vancouver

There is something exciting about having the opportunity to help create a little Magic in the lives of the people you care about. We at **Make Magic & Squares Across the Border** have been given that opportunity, and we welcome you to Vancouver to Make Magic.

In planning this convention, we feel like we have wrapped up this big, wonderful, amazing present that we hope will truly "wow" you all, and we hope that we are giving back a little of what was given to us. Sort of like passing the torch (or the wand!).

We want you to have an amazing weekend, whether this is your eighteenth convention or your first. We hope that you experience the Magic that happens when music, dance, and laughter join together at any level. And that you dance until you can't pull your cowboy boots off! We hope that you get a rush from the Grand March when we all come together in our club finery to raise the roof. We hope that you share great food and conversation at the banquet and that you laugh with amazement at the Honky Tonk Queen contest. And we hope that the Easter Bunny conjures up a few surprises for us all at the brunch.

Before you know it we'll be at the closing ceremonies with both old friends and new, coming together to end this amazing weekend; to thank the callers, to pass the torch, and to make plans to attend next year's convention.

It has been our desire to provide a safe, beautiful, and inclusive environment to just be: to experience the love, laughter, excitement, tears, memories, and most of all, the strength that comes from knowing that we have made friends for life... it's about Making Magic.

Brian L. Smith

Carol Van Camp

John McKinstry



## Schedule

### **Monday, April 09 – Wednesday, April 11, 2001**

- GCA Callers School

### **Thursday, April 12, 2001**

- Victoria Sightseeing Tour: pre-paid only
- Top Hat Walking Tour: pre-paid only
- Dance Up A Storm, 7:30 pm
- Square Dancing & Western Dance

### **Friday, April 13, 2001**

- IAGSDC® Delegates Meeting
- Dancing at all levels
- Club Photos
- Grand March
- Opening Ceremonies
- Leather Tip
- Honky Tonk Queen Contest

### **Saturday, April 14, 2001**

- GCA Meeting
- Dancing at all levels
- Club Photos
- Convention Banquet
- Moonshine Tip

### **Sunday, April 15, 2001**

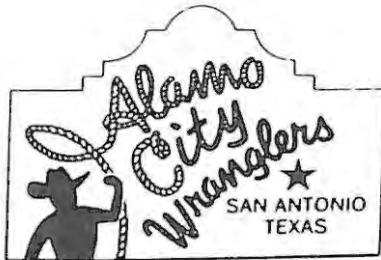
- Convention Planning Meeting
- Dancing at all levels
- IAGSDC® General Meeting and Brunch
- Magical Mystery Tour
- Closing Ceremonies and Memorial Tip

### **Monday, April 16, 2001**

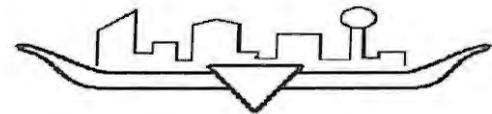
- Whistler Sightseeing Tour: pre-paid only



# The Clubs



Founded: 1990  
San Antonio, TX



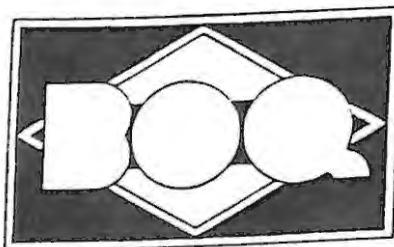
**BIG D LONGHORNS**  
Founded: 1995  
Dallas, TX



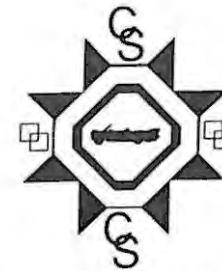
Founded: 1997  
Pasadena, CA



Founded: 1993  
Palm Springs, CA



Founded: 1985  
Seattle, WA



**CADILLAC SQUARES**  
Founded: 1992  
Detroit, MI



Founded: 1981  
Sacramento, CA



Founded: 1986  
Baltimore, MD

The Clubs



Founded: 1987  
Chicago, IL



Founded: 1995  
Ottawa, Canada



Founded: 1987  
Cleveland, OH



Founded: 1981  
Washington, DC



Founded: 1991  
Memphis, TN



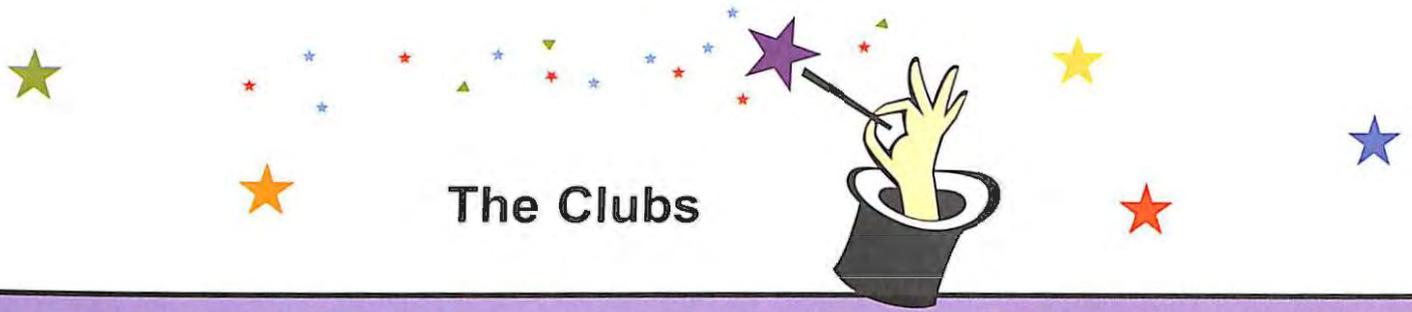
Founded: 1983  
Phoenix, AZ



Founded: 1991  
Milwaukee, WI



Founded: 1992  
Walnut Creek, CA



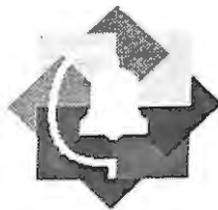
# The Clubs

## Edo 8s

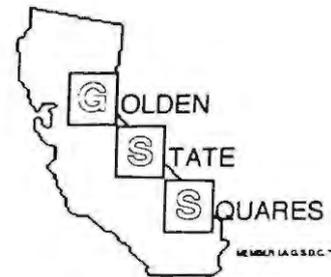
Founded: 1998  
Tokyo, Japan



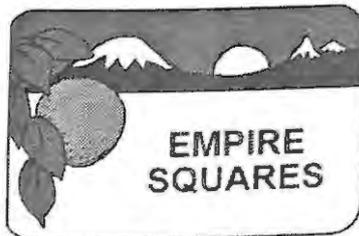
Founded: 1983  
San Francisco, CA



**EL CAMINO REELERS**  
Founded: 1985  
Palo Alto, CA



Founded: 1986  
Santa Ana, CA



Founded: 1998  
Riverside, CA



Grand Rapids, Michigan

Founded: 1988  
Grand River, MI



Founded: 1989  
San Diego, CA



Founded: 1990  
Portland, OR



The Clubs

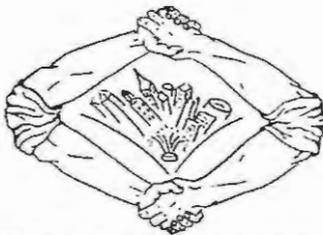
**INDEPENDENCE SQUARES  
PHILADELPHIA**



Founded: 1988  
Philadelphia, PA



Founded: 1991  
Minneapolis, MN



**IRON CITY SQUARES**  
Founded: 1995  
Pittsburg, PA



Founded: 1996  
Santa Barbara, CA

Magic City



Diamonds

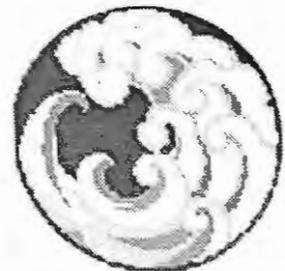
Founded: 1997  
Birmingham, AL



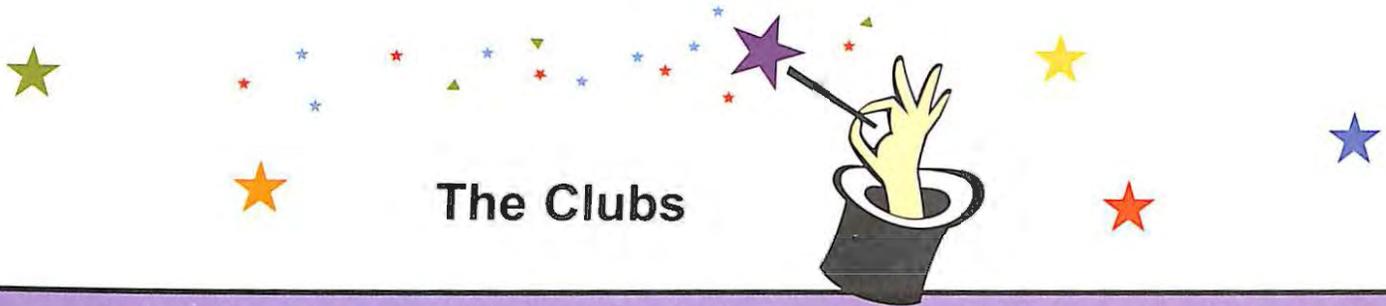
Founded: 1991  
Las Vegas, NV



Founded: 1982  
San Francisco, CA

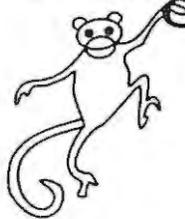


**OCEAN SQUARES**  
Founded: 1996  
San Diego, CA

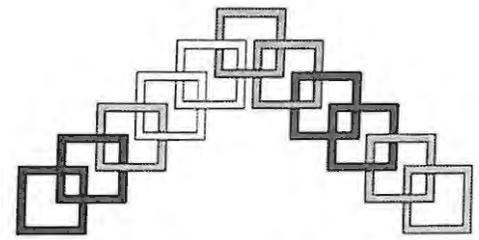


# The Clubs

Primeg's



Founded: 1985  
Carlsbad, CA



**ROCKET CITY RAINBOW SQUARES**  
Founded: 1990  
Huntsville, AL



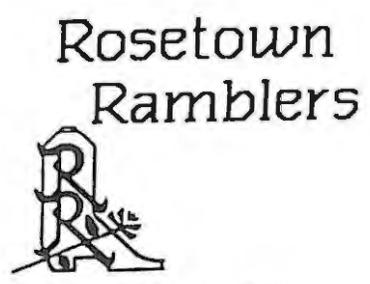
Founded: 1982  
Seattle, WA



Founded: 1984  
Denver, CO



Founded: 1993  
Eugene, OR



Founded: 1983  
Portland, OR

Raleigh	X	▼
▼	Wood	X
X	▼	Squares

Founded: 1995  
Durham, NC



Founded: 1994  
Ponoma, CA

# The Clubs



## SANTA CRUZ SQUARES

Founded: 1996  
Santa Cruz, CA

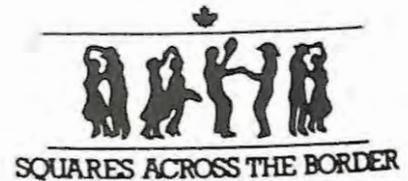
## SOUTH FLORIDA MUSTANGS



Founded: 1980  
Hollywood, FL



Founded: 1995  
Simi Valley, CA



Founded: 1983  
Vancouver, Canada



Founded: 1994  
Kansas City, MO



Founded: 1995  
York/Harrisburg, PA



Founded: 1996  
Long Beach, CA



Founded: 1984  
New York, NY

## The Clubs



Founded: 1987  
Los Angeles, CA



**TRIANGLE  
SQUARES**

Founded: 1987  
Toronto, Canada



Founded: 1982  
San Francisco, CA



Founded: 1983  
Albuquerque, NM



Founded: 1989

**CUESTA SQUARES**

Founded: 1997  
San Luis Obispo, CA

**THE BATHING BEAUTIES**

Founded: In a Pool  
New York, NY

**HOTLANTA SQUARES**

Founded: 2000  
Atlanta, GA

**INDY TRI SQUARES**

Founded: 1996  
Indiannapolis, IN

**SISKIYOU SWINGERS**

Founded: 1997  
Ashland, OR

**T SQUARES**

Founded: 1985  
Tucson, AZ



## The Clubs

### Non-IGSDC® Member Clubs

Bow Action	Mermaid City Squares	Shape-Changers
GLACD/SC	Moonshine Dancers	Standford Quads
Garden St8s	Sequoia Ocean Waves	Tech Squares
Gaslight Squares	Slagelse Square Dance Club	

### A Historical Overview

Bent Squares, Melbourne Victoria, Australia  
 Carnival Twirlers, MountainView, CA  
 Charlies Sunburst Squares, Phoenix, AZ  
 Chinook City Dance Club, Calgary, Canada  
 Copper City Squares, Tucson, AZ  
 Dairyland Rainbow Squares, Madison, WI  
 Dogwood City Dancers, Atlanta, GA  
 Doppler Dancers, Seattle, WA  
 Eight Star Squares, Anchorage, AK  
 Emerald City Squares, Seattle, WA  
 Fistful of Crinolines, Seattle, WA  
 Foggy City Squares, San Francisco, CA  
 Forest City Squares, London, Canada  
 Gaslight Squares, Tacoma, WA  
 Gold Rush, San Francisco, CA  
 High Desert Stars, Santa Fe, NM  
 High Desert Squares, Yucca Valley, CA  
 Hoosier Hoedowners, Ft Wayne, IN  
 Kansas Korners, Wichita, KS  
 Lismore Scooters, Lismore NSW, Australia  
 MC Squared, Boyds, MD  
 MCC Squares, Gainesville, FL

Midnight Ramblers, Phoenix, AZ  
 Mile High Squares, Denver, CO  
 Mountain Laurel Squares, Hartford, CT  
 New Years Resolutions, Orange County, CA  
 New Years Resolutions, West Hollywood, CA  
 Ocean State Yellow Rockers, Providence, RI  
 Ohio City Squares, Cleveland, OH  
 Pi-Eyed Promenaders, Oklahoma City, OK  
 The Pride Promenaders, Sacramento, CA  
 Rainbow Stars, Gardner, MA  
 Renegayde Squares, Austin, TX  
 Sidewinders, Houston, TX  
 Southernmost Strutters, Key West, FL  
 Squares on the Delaware, Philadelphia, PA  
 Sugar and Spice Sister Squares, Denver, CO  
 Sun Coast Wranglers, Tampa, FL  
 Sun Dancers, Palm Springs, CA  
 Temple Squares, Salt Lake City, UT  
 Toddlin' Town Twirlers, Chicago, IL  
 Trafalgar Squares, London, England  
 Winchester, San Francisco, CA



1984



## SEATTLE ALL JOIN HANDS



Virginia Slim  
Honky Tonk Queen



Art Smith  
Golden Boot



Bud Rhyne  
IAGSDC® Chair



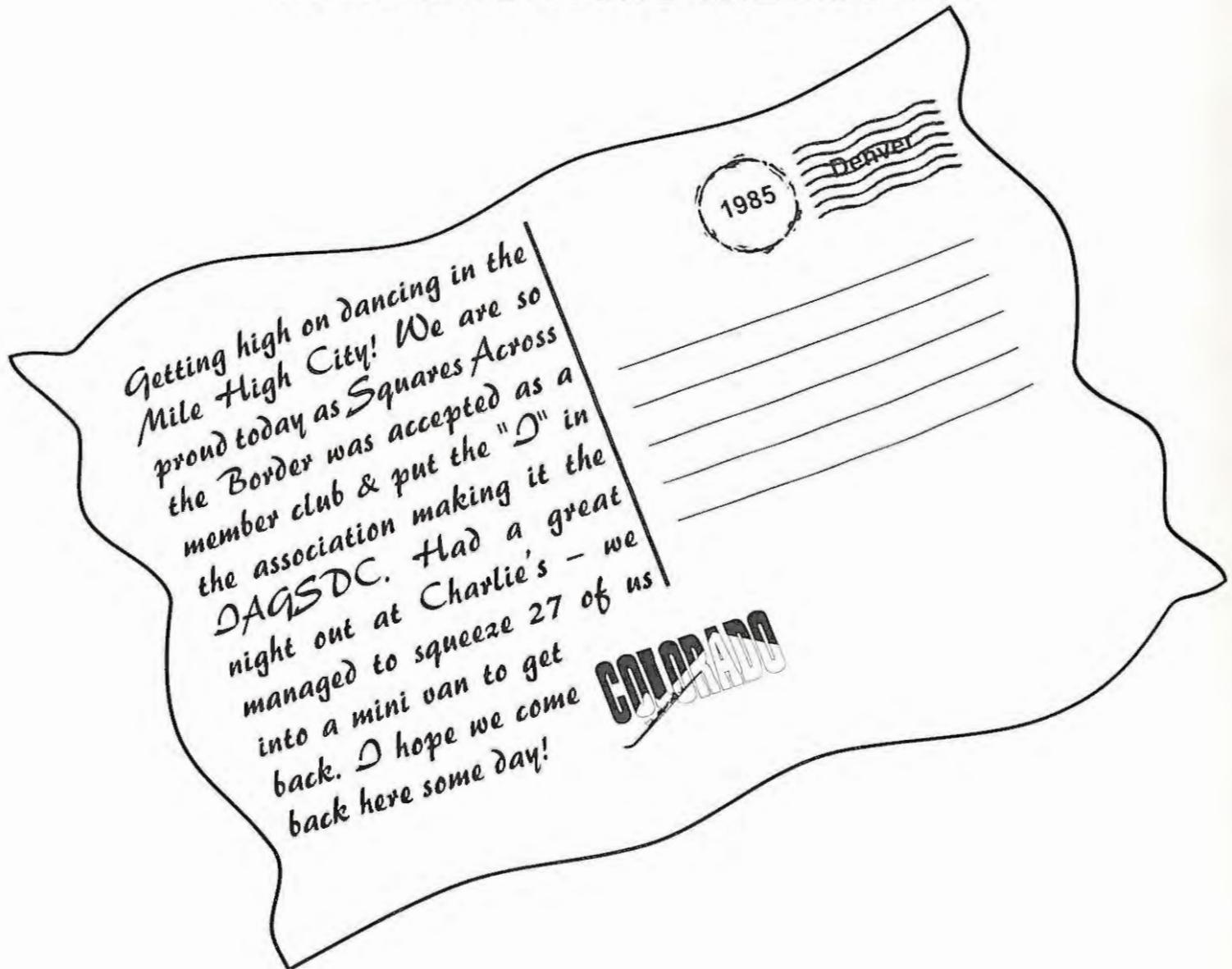
132  
Attendees



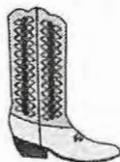
1985



## DENVER PROMENADE ALONG THE ROCKIES



Virginia Slim  
Honky Tonk Queen



South Florida Mustangs  
Golden Boot



Dean Hoffman  
IAGSDC® Chair



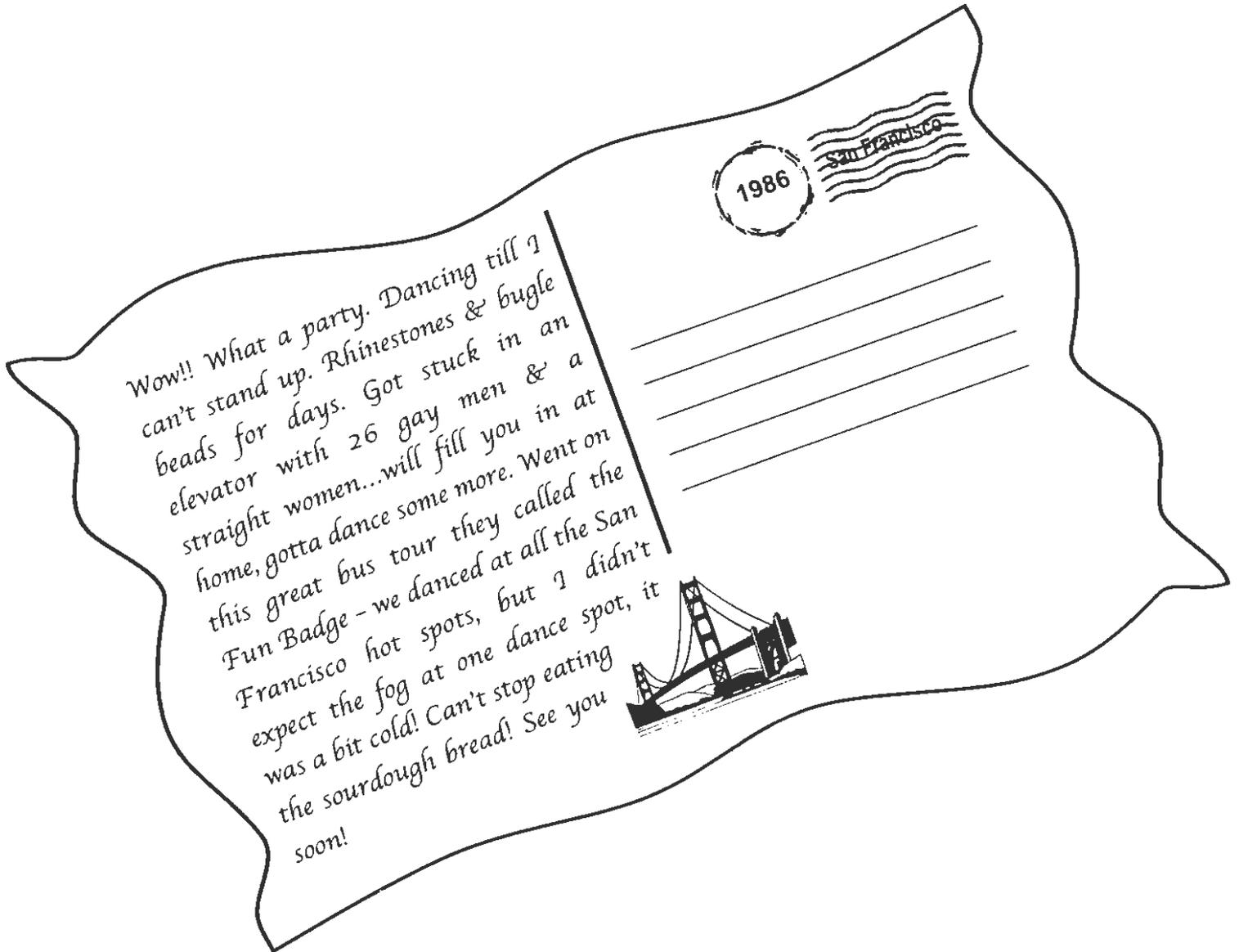
284  
Attendees



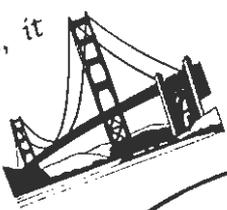
1986



## SAN FRANCISCO STAR THRU THE GOLDEN GATE



Wow!! What a party. Dancing till I  
can't stand up. Rhinestones & bugle  
beads for days. Got stuck in an  
elevator with 26 gay men & a  
straight women...will fill you in at  
home, gotta dance some more. Went on  
this great bus tour they called the  
Fun Badge - we danced at all the San  
Francisco hot spots, but I didn't  
expect the fog at one dance spot, it  
was a bit cold! Can't stop eating  
the sourdough bread! See you  
soon!



Virginia Slim  
Honky Tonk Queen



Dave "Happy" New Year  
Golden Boot



Scott Carey  
IAGSDC® Chair



654  
Attendees



1987



## PORTLAND EXPLODE THE ROSE



Sybil  
Honky Tonk Queen



Scott Carey  
Golden Boot



Rick Hawes  
IAGSDC® Chair



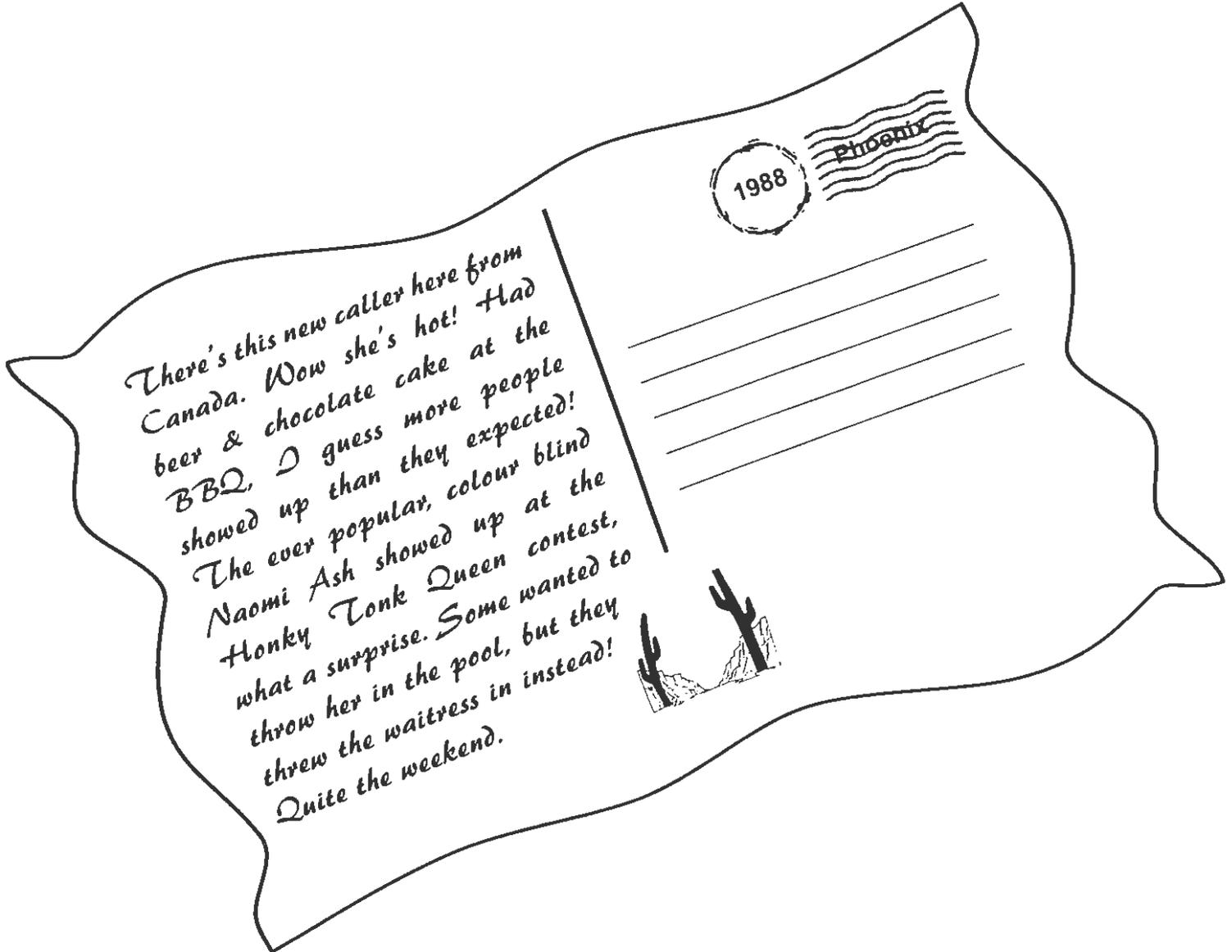
578  
Attendees



1988



## PHOENIX CROSS TRAILS IN THE DESERT



There's this new caller here from Canada. Wow she's hot! Had beer & chocolate cake at the BBQ, I guess more people showed up than they expected! The ever popular, colour blind Naomi Ash showed up at the Honky Tonk Queen contest, what a surprise. Some wanted to throw her in the pool, but they threw the waitress in instead! Quite the weekend.



Pam Demonium  
Honky Tonk Queen



Ken Pollock  
Golden Boot



Wayne Paull  
IAGSDC® Chair



676  
Attendees



1989



## NEW YORK PEEL THE APPLE



Tami Wynotte  
Honky Tonk Queen



Freeman Stamper  
Golden Boot



Marilyn Martinyak  
IAGSDC® Chair



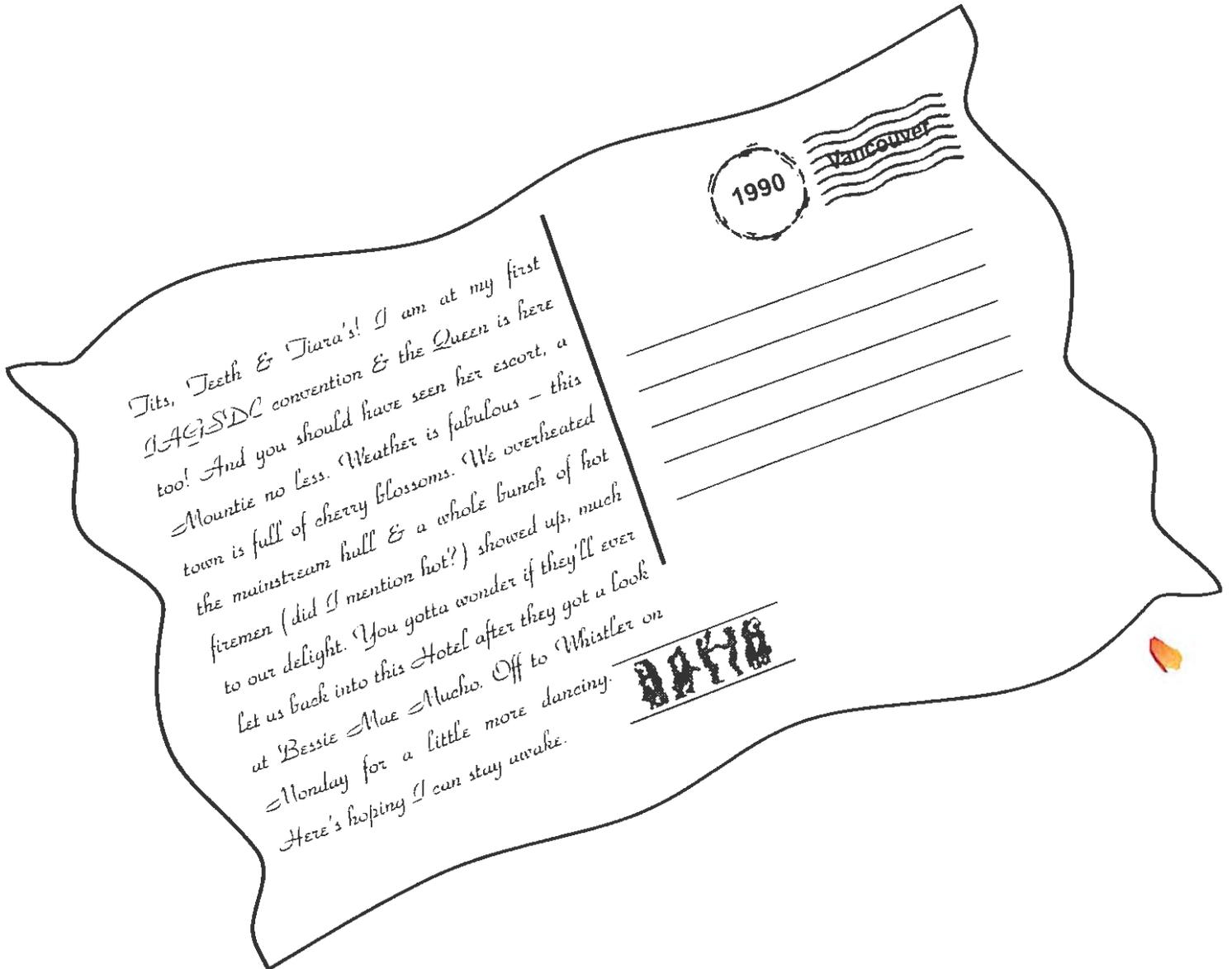
604  
Attendees



1990



## VANCOUVER NORTHSTAR PROMENADE



Layona Davenport  
Honky Tonk Queen



Karl Jaeckel  
Golden Boot



Tom Tripp  
IAGSDC® Chair



845  
Attendees



1991



## MIAMI CAST A SHADOW IN THE SUN



Dominique Fontainbleu  
Honky Tonk Queen



Harlan Kerr  
Golden Boot



Skip Rognlien  
IAGSDC® Chair



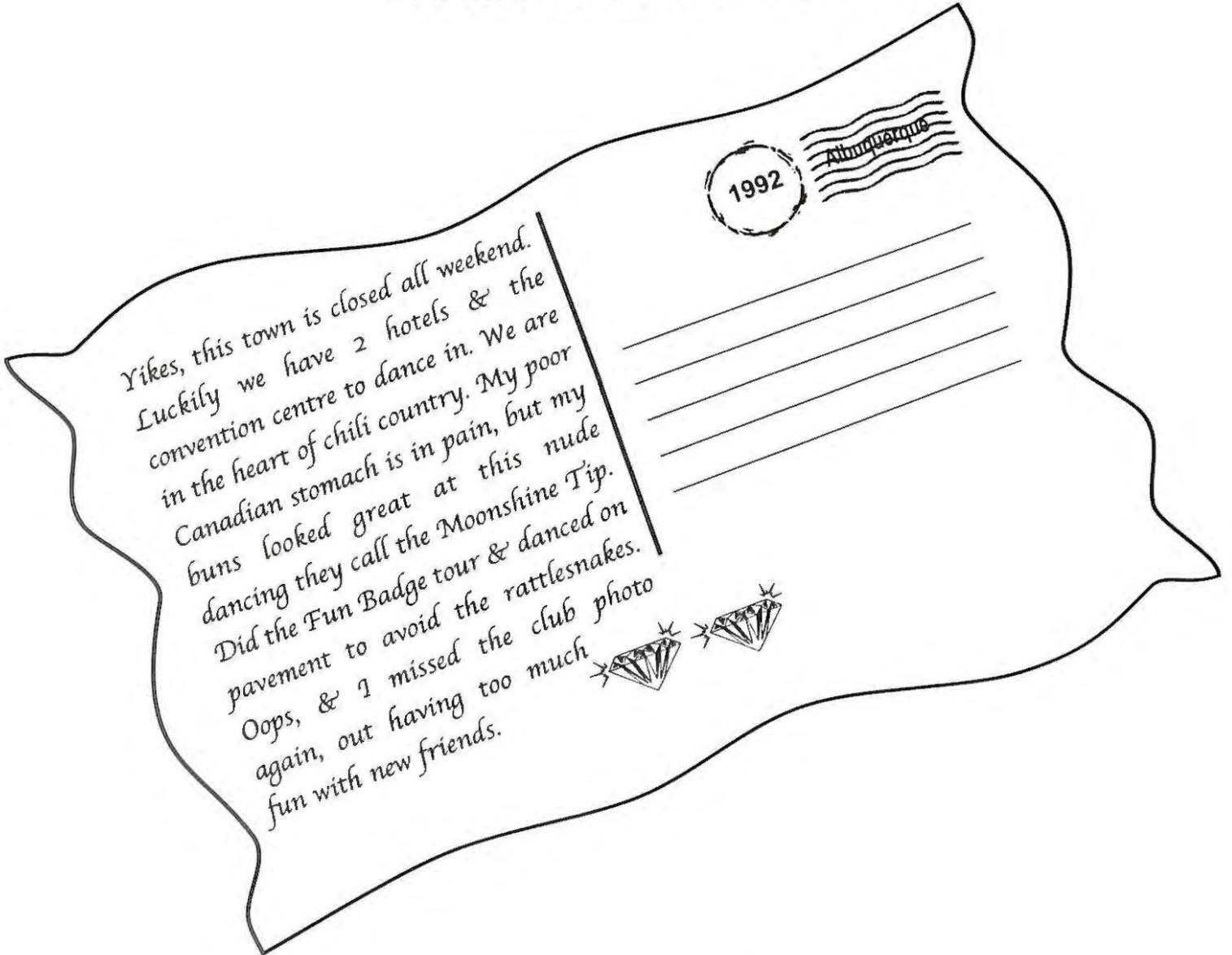
605  
Attendees



1992



## ALBUQUERQUE DIAMOND IN THE SUN



Carmina Putana  
Honky Tonk Queen



Keith Snowdon  
Golden Boot



Skip Rognlien  
IAGSDC® Chair



1071  
Attendees



1993



## SEATTLE REMAKE THE CIRCLE



Moolena  
Honky Tonk Queen



Anna Damiani, Stan Boyden,  
Bill St. John  
Golden Boot



Bob Young  
IAGSDC® Chair



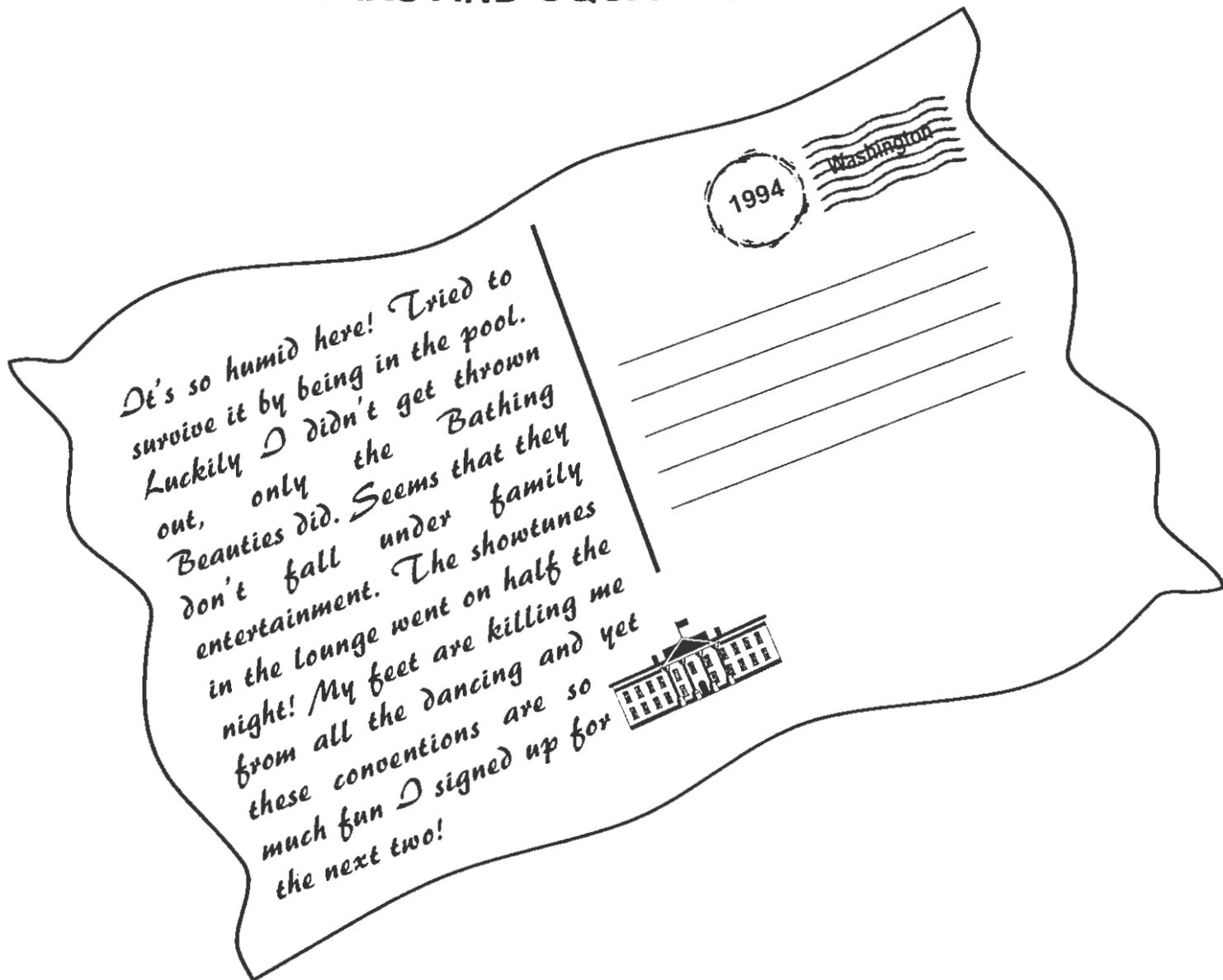
1149  
Attendees



1994



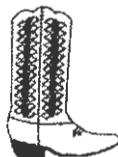
## WASHINGTON STARS AND SQUARES FOREVER



It's so humid here! Tried to survive it by being in the pool. Luckily I didn't get thrown out, only the Bathing Beauties did. Seems that they don't fall under family entertainment. The showtunes in the lounge went on half the night! My feet are killing me from all the dancing and yet these conventions are so much fun I signed up for the next two!



Donna Matrix  
Honky Tonk Queen



Luis Torres, Bill Eyler  
Golden Boot



Bob Young  
IAGSDC® Chair



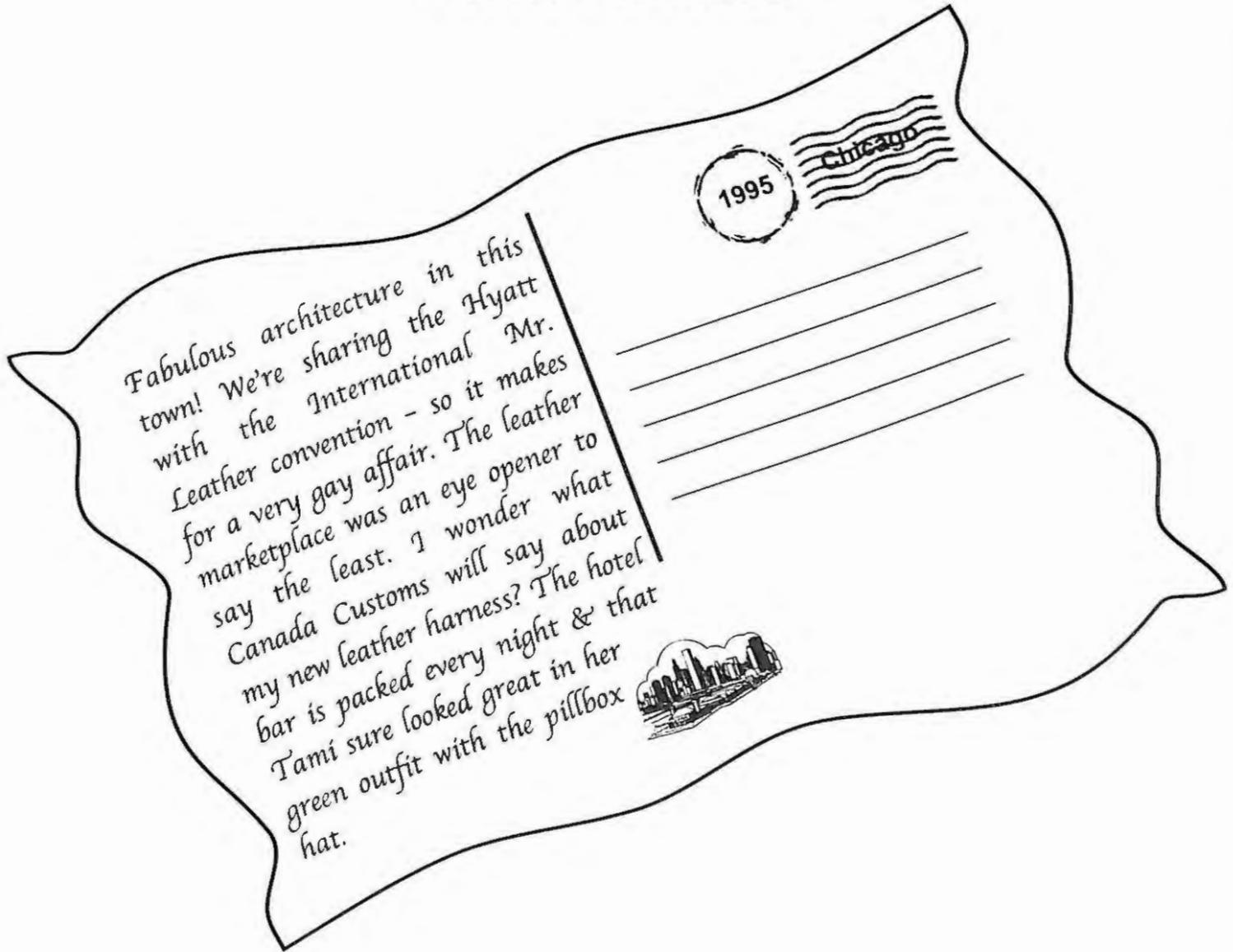
1137  
Attendees



1995



## CHICAGO TRACK II CHICAGO



Lois Carmen D'Nominator  
**Honky Tonk Queen**



Anne Uebelacker  
**Golden Boot**



Bob Young  
**IAGSDC® Chair**



1062  
**Attendees**



1996



## SAN FRANCISCO STARS, THARS AND CABLE CARS



Elvis  
Honky Tonk Queen



Carol Roberts  
Golden Boot



Dana Backiel  
IAGSDC® Chair



1166  
Attendees



1997

## LAS VEGAS WHEEL AND DEAL '97



Virginia Hamm  
Honky Tonk Queen



Kris Jensen  
Golden Boot



Dana Backiel  
IAGSDC® Chair



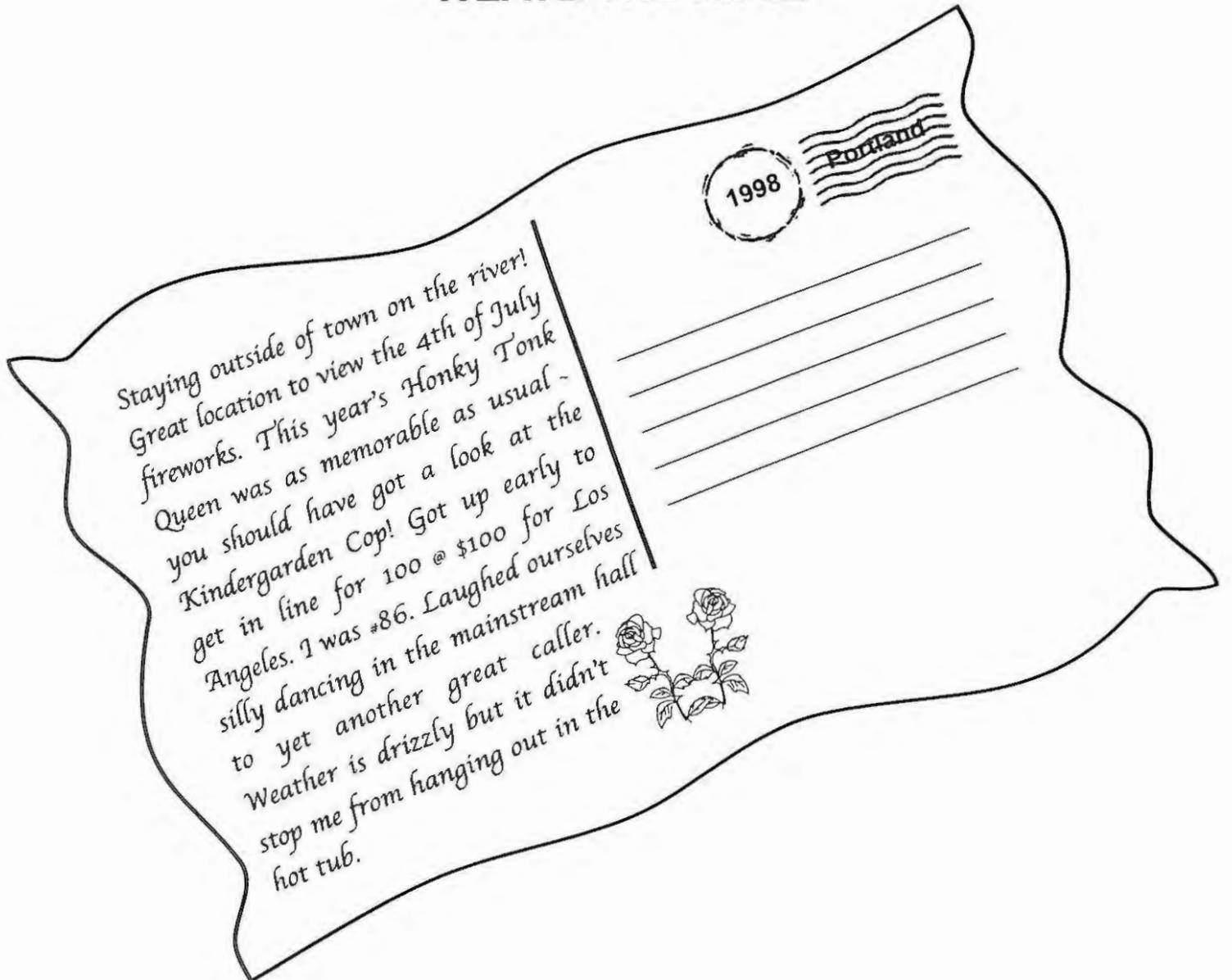
1066  
Attendees



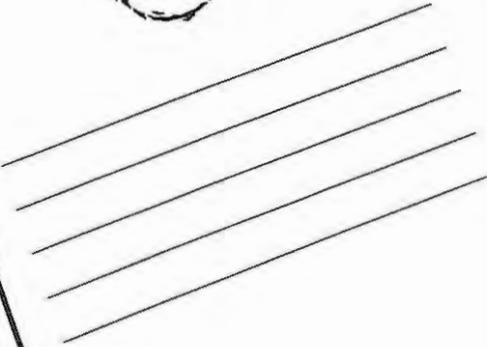
1998



## PORTLAND WEAVE THE ROSE



Staying outside of town on the river!  
 Great location to view the 4th of July  
 fireworks. This year's Honky Tonk  
 Queen was as memorable as usual -  
 you should have got a look at the  
 Kindergarden Cop! Got up early to  
 get in line for 100 @ \$100 for Los  
 Angeles. I was #86. Laughed ourselves  
 silly dancing in the mainstream hall  
 to yet another great caller.  
 Weather is drizzly but it didn't  
 stop me from hanging out in the  
 hot tub.



The Christmas Belles  
Honky Tonk Queen



Mike Staples  
Rick Gonzales  
Golden Boot



Darrell Ertzberger  
IAGSDC® Chair



1080  
Attendees



1999



## LOS ANGELES LIGHTS, CAMERA, LINEAR ACTION!



Muriel  
Honky Tonk Queen



Paul Waters  
Golden Boot



Darrell Ertzberger  
IAGSDC® Chair



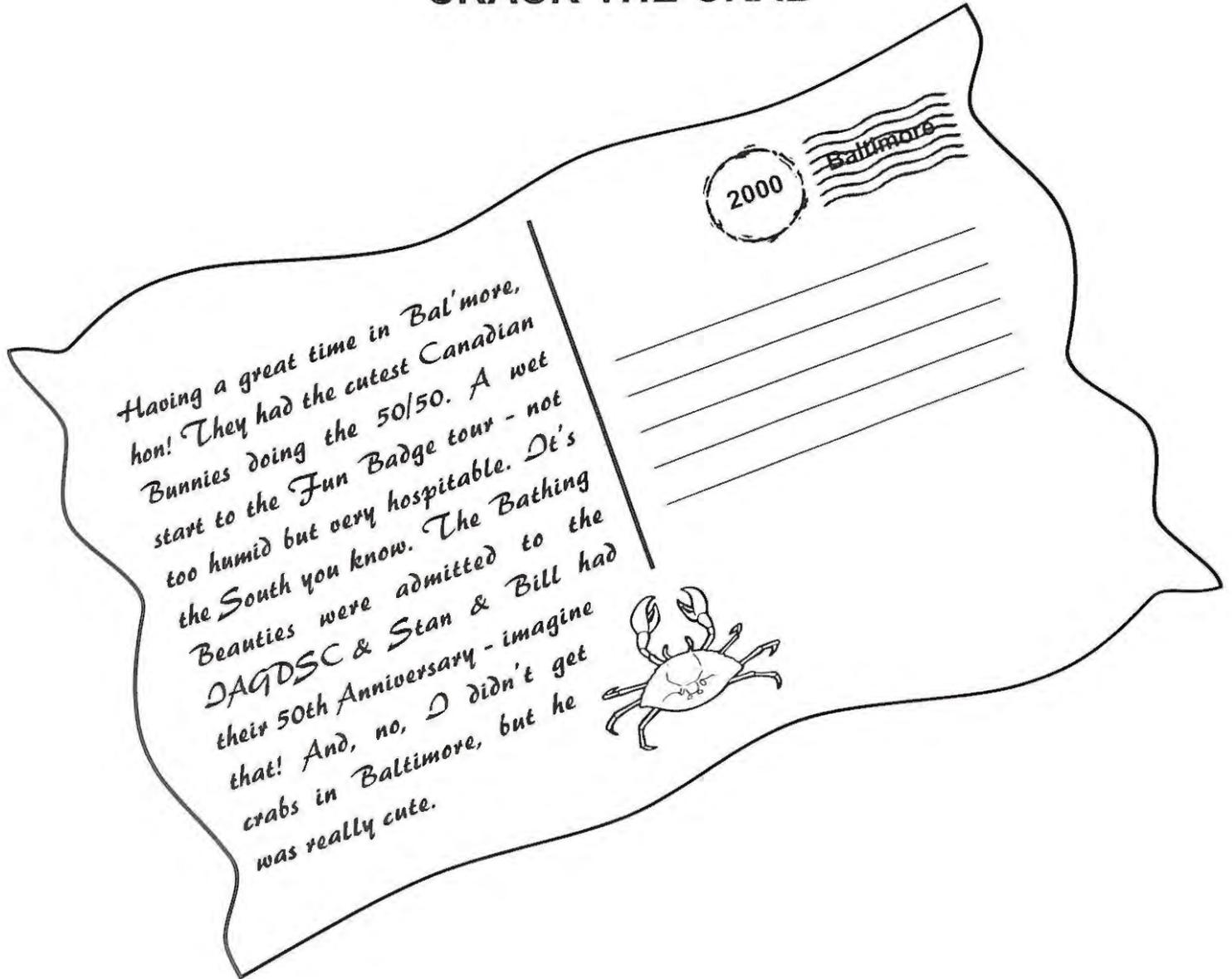
1110  
Attendees



2000



## BALTIMORE CRACK THE CRAB



Ucanleime Amy  
Honky Tonk Queen



Darrell Ertzberger  
Golden Boot



Scott Parker  
IAGSDC® Chair



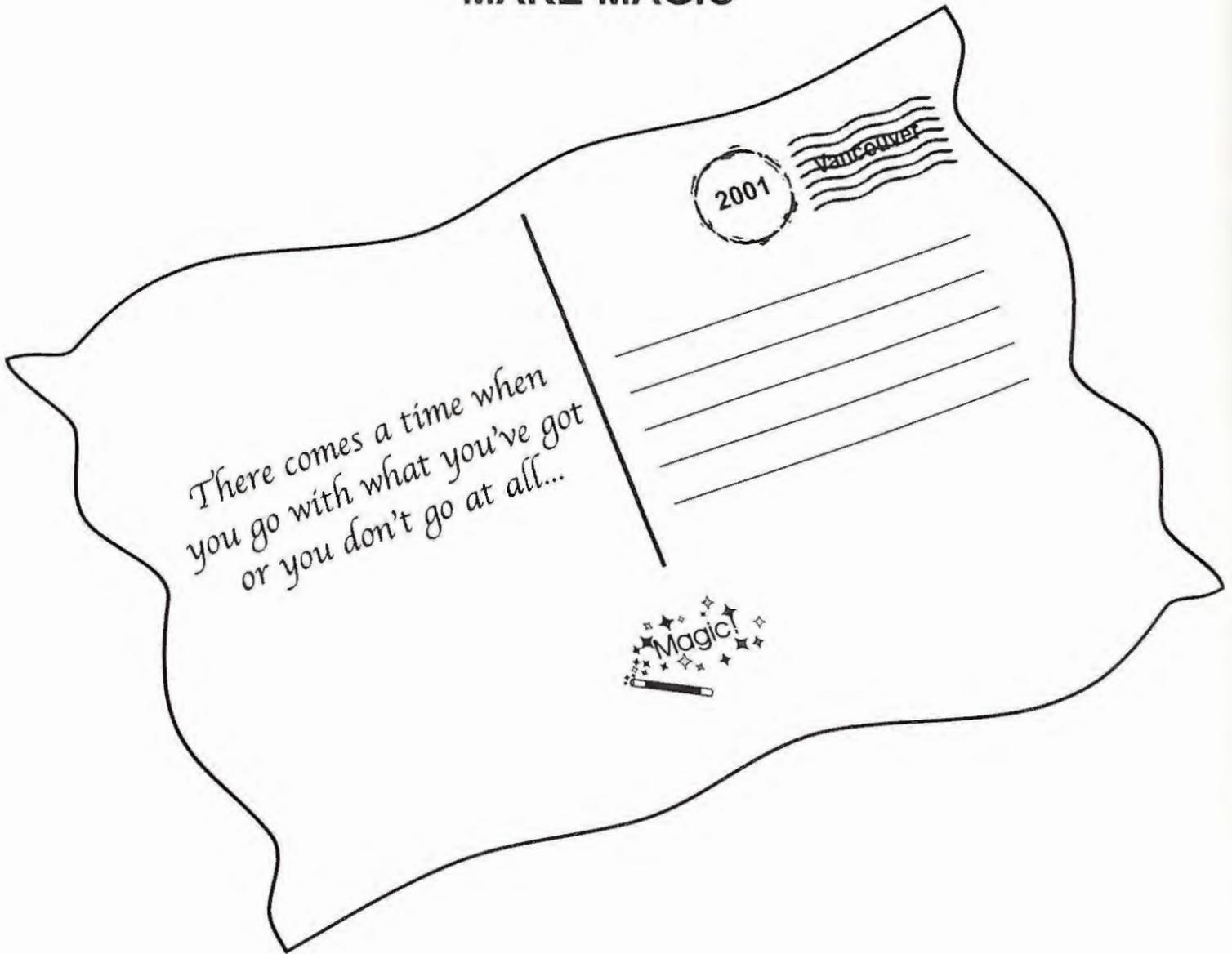
1015  
Attendees



2001



## VANCOUVER MAKE MAGIC



Honky Tonk Queen



Golden Boot



Scott Parker  
IAGSDC® Chair



Attendees



## **The IAGSDC®**

With the burgeoning of gay square dancing as a healthy recreation within the gay community, it became clear that an "umbrella" organization was needed to promote and coordinate events and activities between the clubs. It was at the South Florida Fly-In in 1983 that the Association was officially formed with members in attendance from the South Florida Mustangs, Western Star Dancers of San Francisco, Mile High Squares of Denver, and Puddletown Squares of Seattle. Although not represented at the Fly-In in Miami, the New Years Resolutions are also considered a founding member club. At this meeting the unifying principles of the Association were adopted.

The first draft of the proposed bylaws was presented to participating clubs at the Reno Rodeo later that year. Seattle was selected as the site of the first convention, and Harlan Kerr of Puddletown Squares was selected as the interim Chairperson. A banner executed by Dennis Ficken and Freeman Stamper of Western Star Dancers was adopted as the banner and logo of the Association. Accepted at that meeting as charter member clubs were Capitol (now Capital) City Squares of Sacramento; D.C. Lambda Squares of Washington, DC; Desert Valley Squares of Phoenix; Emerald City Squares of Seattle; Foggy City Dancers and Midnight Squares, both of San Francisco; Rocky Mountain Rainbeaus of Denver; Rosetown Ramblers of Portland; Sidewinders of Houston; and The Wilde Bunch of Albuquerque. Also accepted into the Association was Squares Across the Border from Vancouver, British Columbia, whose addition made it truly an international organization.

~ ~ ~

## **The Gay Callers Association**

The Gay Callers Association (GCA) was established in 1989 for the purpose of bringing together callers involved in the Gay and Lesbian Square Dance activity. The GCA is actively involved in developing the skills of its members through its annual Caller School and quarterly newsletter. GCA Members are the backbone of the IAGSDC® serving as the callers and teachers for many clubs. Membership in the Gay Callers Association is open to everyone involved in calling for Gay and Lesbian Square Dance Clubs, regardless of sexual preference. The GCA newsletter, *The Call Sheet*, contains news of interest to all callers in addition to technical notes about the art and business of calling. The GCA's annual Caller School, held the three days prior to the annual IAGSDC® Convention, is designed to develop and improve calling skills and knowledge for both novice and experienced callers.

For more information, visit our web site at <http://www.iagsdc.org/gca/>, send e-mail to us at [SethL@ix.netcom.com](mailto:SethL@ix.netcom.com), call us at (480) 704-9604, or write GCA c/o Seth Levine, President, 15010 S 28th St, Phoenix, AZ 85048.



## A History

On May 1st, 1983, the Puddletown Squares of Seattle, Washington held their first class graduation. During that graduation, the Puddletown Squares awarded Art Smith the "Golden Boot Award" for his outstanding contribution to gay square dancing by having started the first gay square dance club in Seattle and for promoting the gay square dance movement in the northwest.

The original Golden Boot Award was an actual western boot. The boot came from one of Puddletown's member's used pair of boots, sprayed gold with gold chains and rhinestones appropriately glued to the boot. The other boot of that pair is believed to be the one atop the Honky Tonk Queen crown. Until the summer of 1985, no further activity occurred with this award. Art felt that this award should be shared with other people or organizations within the IAGSDC® that were making or had made substantial contributions to the gay square dance movement. After getting an okay from Puddletown, Art approached the president of the IAGSDC® and received a very positive go ahead to make the presentation of the Golden Boot Award.

The first presentation of the Golden Boot Award at an IAGSDC® convention was presented to the South Florida Mustangs at the Denver Convention in 1985. The award was an engraved plaque. This award was presented during the opening ceremonies of the convention. Subsequent presentations have been made at different times during the annual convention.

The tradition established is that the person or group receiving the award: chooses the next recipient and provides whatever form of acknowledgement is desired, keeps that decision secret, and then makes the presentation of the new recipient at the next convention.

In the words of Art Smith... "The spirit of the Golden Boot Award belongs to everyone. For it is all of us contributing together, sharing our energy, our dedication, and most of all our love that is truly the spirit that is honored. When any one of us gives 100% of the best of what and who we are, that is the finest example of the essence of what the Golden Boot Award exemplifies."

*In the postcard presentations of this program you will find a listing for each year's Golden Boot recipient. This time honoured tradition continues at each annual IAGSDC® convention.*



## The Ten Year Medallion

Created by Freeman Stamper

In 1989, it dawned on me that some of us had been doing this square dancing thing for some time and it looked as though we had a few more years of steam left in us. I realized that I had made personal choices to participate so actively in gay square dancing and that I had grown considerably through my commitment to the activity. I put some thought into a way to express appreciation to those of us long-suffering individuals who stuck together.

In creating the Medallion Dancer, I achieved my goals:

- giving the individual dancer a simple, attainable goal that is judged by nothing other than participation
- giving the individual dancer control over attaining the goal so that alternatives can be woven into the process of achievement
- providing a goal that is realistic, but requires extraordinary effort
- providing a reward that is tangible and visually satisfying
- providing a spirit of great joy and a feeling of personal human worth in having achieved the goal
- creating a feeling of community and equality among those who have reached and are seeking to reach the same goal
- extending the convention attendance life of the dancer in order to provide significant convention attendees so that newer dancers feel the excitement of the mass

It does not take ten years to earn a medallion. It can be earned in nine years because they are counted from the beginning of the year, not the end (as is true when counting anniversaries). Additionally, since the conventions do not have to be consecutive, some dancers take longer than 10 years to earn a medallion. It is important to remember that conventions are being counted, not years.

\*\*\*\*\*

In 1998 Freeman Stamper, on behalf of the IAGSDC®, passed the administration and maintenance of the Medallion Dancer project to Rick Hawes of Portland, Oregon. He continues the tradition of the Medallion Dancer project and presents the award at the IAGSDC® annual convention.



## The Fun Badge Tour

### Load the...Bus?

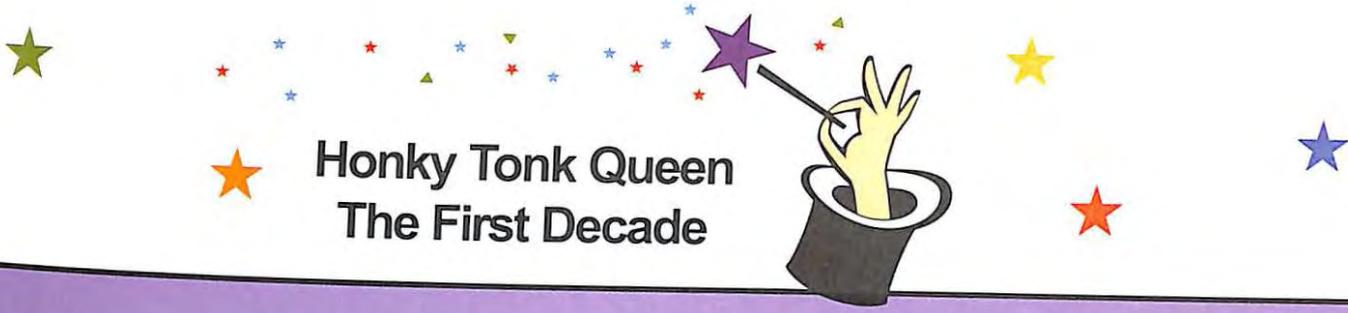
By Thomas A. Tripp Jr.

(adapted from *Square Up Magazine*, Issue 9, October, 1996)

Did you know the "Fun Badge Tour" was born in San Francisco? That's right...one day, Eddie Smith and Tom Tripp were sitting around musing about how they'd like the convention attendees to see the city where the convention was to be held. The IAGSDC® convention was held in San Francisco in 1986 and they were on the planning committee. They figured they'd hire a couple of buses for a couple of hours and cart convention attendees around San Francisco to various tourist spots. The plan was at each spot to get off the bus, dance to a pre recorded tape from a boom box, then get back on the bus and go to the next location. For each place that the bus stopped, the dancers would get a little round "fun badge" for having danced there.

Now here's a little piece of gay square dance history for the records: When we all first started square dancing we pirated the previously "straight" concept of fun dangles and, to this day, have brought it to new levels of creativity. In San Francisco, they were literally queer for fun dangles. Everyone collected them and prided themselves on long strings of fun badge dangles for dancing in odd locations, at odd hours, on holidays, and for long durations of time. It became almost competitive. With the advent of dangle & badge vendors to the gay square dance scene and good friends like Bert and Rhonda Swerer and Bob and JoAnn Fial, well, the sky was the limit! All you would need to do was to come up with a reason and a design for the badge and you could have it made. James Ozanich helped make the original contacts to get those dangles and the limitless possibilities for fun badge creativity.

The stage was set for the very first Fun Badge Tour. The response was incredible: everyone wanted to do it. The first tour was a no-frills event that cost a whopping \$10.00 per person. On Sunday, August 24, 1986 the very first FBT, the mother of the FBT, took off from the New Montgomery Street entrance of the Sheraton Palace Hotel. There was no 8:00 am call; this tour took off at a civil hour in the afternoon after a lovely brunch in the grand Garden Court of the Sheraton. People in all sorts of costumes started lining up to get on the busses. After what seemed like an eternity, the final bus rolled out on the first great fun badge adventure. Since 1986 the FBT has grown in popularity as a great way to dance and visit a city. If limitation is the sincerest form of flattery, then Tom Tripp and the organizers of the very first fun badge tour thank you. The tradition continues today and has evolved to require t-shirts, drinks and snacks on-board, live callers, permits, insurance, deposits, and even a police escort. None of this was present in 1986, and look where we are now! The tour sells out every year and is one of the most popular events of the IAGSDC® annual convention.



## Honky Tonk Queen The First Decade

**By Sybil**

*Reprinted & edited without permission (she's dead isn't she?)*

### **Chapter 1, 1984 Seattle, 1985 Denver, 1986 San Francisco, The Early Years (The Ones Without SYBIL).**

The Honky Tonk Queen Pageant was originally created in response to a square dance record entitled "Honky Tonk Queen" recorded by two internationally famous callers, Paul Marcum and Elmer Sheffield. Both of these callers were at the first convention in Seattle. The song was such a hit with Miss Virginia Slim from Seattle that she created the Honky Tonk Queen Pageant. She not only Created it, she crowned herself Queen! What a Woman! And by creating the pageant she established herself as one of the most important Drag Queens in all of Drag Queen history! Was it because she was the first queen? NO! Was it because she won the next year in Denver and the next year in San Francisco? NO! Was it because she was one hell of a lady who will always be in the hearts of all the people who have had the chance to know her? NO! Any one of these would have been more than enough reason for the dear girl to go down in history, but all these reasons were overshadowed by her ultimate claim to fame. By creating the Honky Tonk Queen Pageant, IT WAS THERE FOR SYBIL TO WIN!

### **Chapter 2, 1987 Portland, A Star Is Born.**

It's 1987, Portland, Oregon and Virginia finally reveals her genius and how she managed to win the title three years in a row. It seems that every year up until 1987 she didn't allow any other contestants! Is that brilliant or what? In 1987, she allowed other contestants to run and decided not to run herself (which is good 'cause she would have just won again). The contest was held in her hospitality suite. The room was packed with gorgeous, sweaty square dancers, both male and female. The contestants were milling about, the atmosphere an odd blend of casual and tense. And there I was, a young innocent girl from San Francisco, just out for a good time and a few laughs. There were other contestants. I would describe them but, unfortunately, compared to me they were so blah and pathetic that I can't honestly remember a thing about them. Oh yes, I do remember one thing, they were all unbelievably ugly. But why dwell on the unpleasant. I, SYBIL, won, and things would never be the same. Oh yes, I should mention one important side event. Stephanie, from Western Star, made a brief appearance. I had worshiped her from the first moment I had seen her at the closing of the Gay Games in San Francisco the year before. She was everything I thought a Drag Queen should be - two tons of teased hair. But now seeing her through the eyes of the freshly crowned and universally adored HONKY TONK QUEEN, I saw her for what she really was - two tons of ratty wig. I felt something akin to pity for her (or was it repulsion?). But, why dwell on the unpleasant? Anyway I won, I won, I WON! A STAR WAS BORN.

### **Chapter 3, 1988 Phoenix, A Star Becomes A Goddess.**

At first I didn't think it was going to be a good year. I was shocked to find that they had rewritten the rules and I would be forced to give a pageant at the Phoenix Convention. I had planned to just abolish the whole thing and reign as Queen forever. But things turned out better than I had feared. To begin with, the Pageant had grown. The year I WON! there were about 60 people crammed into



## Honky Tonk Queen The First Decade continued...

a hospitality suite, about 7 pathetic has-been contestants, and ME! In Phoenix the Pageant had grown so large that we moved from a small side room to a main ballroom. There was a mob of over 300 adoring SYBIL fans, over 25 pathetic has-been contestants, and ME! And then a truly wonderful thing happened. They handed me a long hard object. It made me quiver, it made me moist. It was a microphone and it MADE ME A GODDESS! Oh yeah, and this mousy little thing in an overdone dress with enough satin and lace on it to gag a maggot, named Miss Pam Demonium, won the contest.

### Chapter 4, 1989 New York, The Legend Continues.

Miss Pam Demonium shocked the entire square dance community by performing the first really intelligent act of her otherwise boring and uninspiring life. She didn't show up in New York. This was incredibly wise for two reasons. One, it would have surely hurt her feelings to realize that absolutely no one remembered her or cared that she had shown up and two, it gave SYBIL the microphone AGAIN! This came about due to the incredible genius of Miss Wella Balsam. Wella is one of those girls that every important organization needs. She was that hard working and dedicated person who kept the whole thing going. Of course this dynamic personality was an over-compensation for a basically drippy, wallflower psychological make-up. I mean the poor thing had been a total nobody, completely overlooked her entire life if she had depended on her looks, but what the hell it kept the whole thing going. And what a thing it had become! In the Big Apple we took over the main ballroom. The huge room was packed with over 700 people, over 40 pathetic has-been contestants and ME! This year the winner was a classic example of the power of the sympathy vote. The previous year she had shown up in a scraggly little grass skirt, bare-footed, sporting a coconut bra and no hair. To compensate, this year she came dressed to the max with enough hair to make Stephanie gag. (Ms. Stephanie continued to hover around the pageant much like an overdone moth flitting around a flame she could never attain. This year she brought the Bradley sisters. It is rumored these harpies were the result of a torrid and absolutely disgusting long-standing lust-fest between Stephanie and the entire male population of Des Moines, but it's probably just a nasty rumor, not anything I would want to get around.) Yes Miss Tami Wynotte, a homely - I mean home girl - certainly did herself up to beat the band. I would like to say it helped improve her basic looks, but why lie. Anyway, everybody felt so sorry for her she won.

### Chapter 5, 1990 Vancouver, The Dark Clouds Begin to Gather.

Unlike her predecessors, Tami did not have the good graces to stay away. Not only did she show up, SHE TOOK CHARGE OF THE MICROPHONE! The little bitch was disgusting. By imitating my style, my glamour, my every little nuance, she managed to pull the whole thing off. Oh sure I was there. I was still everyone's best wet dream, but it just wasn't the same. And of course Miss Wella-the doctor says I'll be better any day now-Balsam was there. AND THEY MADE HER A PRINCESS! And something about Virginia Hamm, which I thought was a part of the catering. Obviously the whole pageant was going to HELL IN A HANDBASKET! And to make matters worse, everywhere I turned I saw Stephanie with him, Terry Presley, my wicked, evil twin brother. They were everywhere, head to head, plotting, scheming, but what would be the result of their devious plans, WHAT! The strain was getting to me! Oh yeah, Layona Davenport won the contest. She had

Honky Tonk Queen  
The First Decade  
continued...



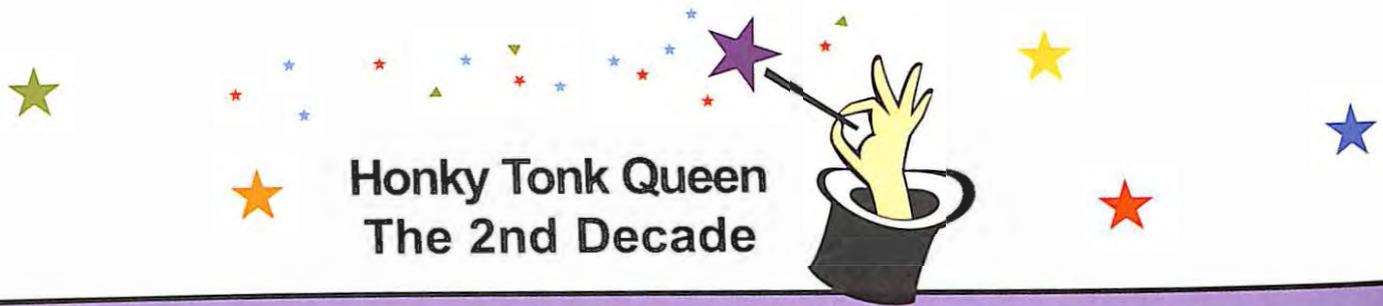
heard that it helped your chances if you slept with the judges, and since she didn't know who the judges were, she slept with everybody who attended the convention.

**Chapter 6, 1991 Miami, Stormy Weather.**

Miami, my hometown, was a nightmare. My wicked, evil twin brother showed up with his woman. HE CLAIMED SHE WAS THE REAL SYBIL! MY NERVES! I mean she WASN'T A DRAG QUEEN! SHE WAS, WAS, YOU KNOW, A WOMAN! Not that I don't like women, I adore them. But this one was claiming to be me, or claiming I was claiming to be her. It was all so confusing with that slime Stephanie just smiling like Tammy Baker at a two-for-one tacky make up sale at Woolworths and Terry whining " why does everyone always want to see Sybil, why doesn't everyone want to see me?" (I had patiently explained to him that there wasn't much of a market in the world or popularity for aging leprechauns, but some people just can't face reality, sad isn't it.) It was all too much. And then on top of it all, that miserable excuse for a Queen, Layona Sofa, or whatever her name was, brought the entire Chicago Rehabilitation Ward (they called themselves the SHE-DEVILS, never were truer words spoken) and then turned the pageant into a full blown extravaganza! Sure, I was still everybody's reason for living, but it was all becoming too, too much. IT ISN'T EASY BEING A SEX GODDESS LET ME TELL YOU. Anyway, this thing from New York who confused Vogueing with making faces won and I can't even remember what her little pretentious one name was: Cher, or Mystique, or DOMINO, or something like that. And there's Terry with that look of murder in his eyes, and Stephanie with that wicked, wicked, wicked, smile and all those PATHETIC HAS-BEEN CONTESTANTS! But I'll show them. I'LL SHOW THEM ALL! I've found an incredible Beverly Hills Doctor who has agreed to SURGICALLY IMPLANT A MICROPHONE IN MY THROAT AND THEY'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO STOP ME THEN, NEVER I TELL YOU! Next year ALBUQUERQUE and then THE WORLD!

*This was as far as she got. It seems that Sib met her untimely end, not long after writing the last "chapter", on the operating table of a local veterinarian who had lost his practicing license many years ago during a malpractice suit involving several prominent citizens from Two Egg, Florida. It's really all too sad. As previously stated, these are obviously the rantings of a mad woman, and the ugly rumors that both Stephanie and I were volunteer Candy Strippers at the Animal Hospital where Sybil met her sad, sad end are just that, ugly rumors. Terry.*





## Honky Tonk Queen The 2nd Decade

By Lois & Tami

In the IAGSDC® 10 year book Terry Presley, writing under the nom-de-plume of the late Sybil, gave an account of the origins of the Honky Tonk Queen contest. While some was true, it was decidedly slanted towards self-aggrandizement and unmitigated ego. Enough of the ranting and ravings of a truly deranged mind. Anyone who can separate his or her disparate personalities (giving credit for Terry being a personality, which he isn't, and giving credit for Sybil being a single personality, which she isn't) is a big ol' L-O-S-E-R in my book. But we digress. Let's check in with the ONLY voices of reason ever expectorated out of the Honky Tonk Queen contest, the vastly underrated and vastly oversized, the incomparable, the zaftig Lois Carmen D'Nominator and the demure and understated Tami Wynotte.

Let's see - shall we pick up where Symple - er, Sybil left off?

### 1992 Albuquerque, We Dance Where?

Albuquerque - you know we'll never forget it. We just can't say enough about Albuquerque - well, none that's fit for printing, anyway. It would have behooved the Committee, however, to find out that during the 4th of July weekend Albuquerque CLOSES!!! COMPLETELY!!!! A last-one-out-turn-off-the-lights type of closed! Please forward our mail, and thanks for coming.

Once again, though, off the A train of thought. The contest was run by Dominique de Fountainebleau (and, once removed, Tami), who chose opera for the contest's theme. They entered the stage area by descending on the escalators, with hundreds of extras, in a grand "Wagnerian" fashion. While we waited and waited for the Queen's costume changes, Albuquerque marks the first time that Lois entered the Honky Tonk Queen contest with a lengthy group of SheDevils in tow. She also notes that, if it hadn't been for the carefully placed wringers in the crowd chanting "Lois, Lois," she would have been booted out with the other first round losers. Strategy is everything. Lois ended up in an operatic duel with Carmina Putana, the eventual winner of the contest. Lois reports that she NEVER wants to have to use plastic vomit and toilet paper as props again.

### 1993 Seattle, College Bound Again

Let's see - who ran this contest? Does anyone remember? Does anyone care? Carmina the Whore!! Ah, yes, it all comes back now, like a dream after bad refried beans! The contest was won by a cow. The lovely Moolena of Vancouver, BC, all drippy with jewels. Oh yeah, and they held the contest at the crack of screech (Noon) on a Saturday. Don't know about y'all, but it's against my religion (and all the gods of dragdom) to put on artificial lashes before 4 pm, unless it's Gay Pride Week, daytime festivals where hot men without their shirts on might cuddle up and get their pictures taken with you, or you've had a really bad day and you need to feel beautiful. Let it be stated for the record, however, that this really was the first time that an actual talent was performed by a contestant. Saw playing - now there's one for the books!



## Honky Tonk Queen The 2nd Decade continued...

### **1994 Washington, Out of the Secretarial Pool, and out of the Swimming Pool, Too!**

Moolena had gotten a little too close to a meat grinder and was served up on a platter for this contest. (You might say that instead of a tartan, she wore a tartare!) For the first - and only - time in HTQ history, the runner-up had to fulfill the duties of the dead Queen, and we elevated the lovely, but confused, Curli-Q to be Queen for one hour - not a bad reign for a girl nobody wanted! The Honky Tonk Queen contest was again held at a reasonable hour, and Lois entered yet again. This time, she lost to a rubber-encased lesbian who stole Lois' idea of having peons (no, not pee on!!!) chant her name. Gotta luv a girl who steals from the best! Donna Matrix had a great contingent who proved to one and all that we truly were not worthy. While the contest was a few laughs, the bathing beauties (also known as the Honky Tonk Training Academy, or just Miss Jean Brodie's School for Girls) were ejected from the pool by a hotel manager for scaring the children. Seriously! And in the midst of a Democratic administration!!! The embarrassment! The humiliation!! The humanity!!! THE BASTARD!!!!

### **1995 Chicago, My Kind Of Town**

This was the 10th Anniversary of the Honky Tonk Queen contest, and it began with a rousing rendition of The Cellblock Tango, featuring all living former Queens, as well as the remains of Sybil, although she had died during a botched abortion at the hands of an unlicensed veterinarian two years earlier. And although dead two years, she actually looked better than she had alive. Hmmm.

The contest has two memories attached, Lois' and Tami's.  
*Lois writes:* My convention, my town, my win. Me, Me, Me! Oh yeah, a note to all of those people who asked how long Lil Biddydick and I worked on our "no speaking" routine. Exactly 30 seconds prior to the beginning of the contest. I didn't want to run at all - couldn't stand being the "Susan Lucci" of the Honky Tonk Queen contest again. And let's be honest - if the judges had been as smart as the judges the following year, Elvis would have won in Chicago. Thank God I didn't have to try to live that one down. I really think that would have been the final nail in Lois' coffin. For those of you who had the fleeting thought "GOOD!" bite me, okay?

*Tami writes:* Worst mistake we ever made!

### **1996 San Francisco, Back on the Bay**

This Honky Tonk Queen Contest was won by a dog! Not the kind that wins every year, but an actual dog - who started out the year before as an also-ran, escorting Miss Grace Land, and somehow rose not only to Honky Tonk Queen, but also Best in Show. Elvis - woof - would reign supreme for the next year. Our Queen was the King.

### **1997 Las Vegas, Fake Boobs in Glitter Gulch**

Now here was a year so completely devoid of talent and imagination, we finally had to give the crown to Virginia Hamm, who literally won the lesbian judges over just by wiggling her little finger. Now, how was that for some sugar-cured audacity! This was also the year that we found out that Miss Anne Uebelacker could do some things with her fingers other than - well, whatever. The broad plays the accordion! Go figure!!! Somebody entered as Deborah Parnell (and honey, WHY???), Roseanne screeched, and the rest is just a blur - although Tami made a lovely showgirl!



## Honky Tonk Queen The 2nd Decade continued...

### 1998 Portland, Won't Udo That Voodoo That Udo So Well!

OK - size does matter, as we found out this year when the Belles of San Francisco made their triumphant entrance in the contest - marking the first time the contest was won by a float - or four floats, if you weigh it out!!! In no particular order, they were: Belle Whatley, Belle Poitrine, Belle Epoque, and Belle E. Button. Great costumes, minimal talent. They did prove what Lois and Tami have always believed: that drag and leather are at opposite ends of the same continuum - and these twisted bitches lived at both ends simultaneously! In addition to that, they all fed off of one brain!

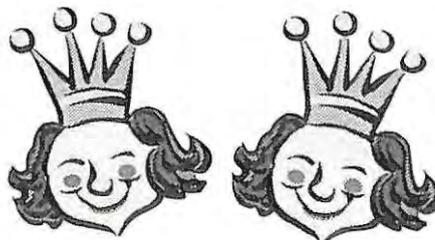
### 1999 Los Angeles, Death March - Now There's a C-4 Concept!

This contest was won by a foreigner who's too damned pretty to be a Honky Tonk Queen. The Divine Muriel - a pro, we might add - swept through and took the contest the way her ancestors took Pearl Harbor. Just bombed the crap out of them and left everybody stunned. Incidentally, after Los Angeles, it can no longer be ignored: the contest was populated by the largest number of losers in history. What happened to all the fun contestants? What happened to glamour? What happened to talent?? WHAT HAPPENED???. It happened, my dears, that the contest was decidedly won by someone who speaks NOT ONE WORD OF ENGLISH!!! Just enough to make a love connection, if you know what I mean.

### 2000 Baltimore, I've Got Crabs!!!

Well, with the help of two old pros, Muriel showed up for the contest with some men of Asian persuasion that made rice queens out of the most die-hard white bread lovers! Never will we forget those boys shimmying out of their kimonos and turning around holding those long, hard, tube-shaped cannons and ejaculating paper streamers all over the faces of the first two rows! After annoying several contestants with acts of self-will, and forcing contestants to improvise on the spot rather than perform what they'd rehearsed, the crown was handed over to Ucanleime Amy - a Polynesian wannabe, whose talents are yet to be determined! Stand by for the true test of her mettle!

That same evening, Tami and Lois finally reach the same conclusion: that putting on stupid women's clothing, slapping their faces with toxic waste, and wearing hair that only a street person could love, might not be the way to true love, so they doffed their wigs, shimmied out of their crinolines, and boogied the Hell out of dragdom forever. Well -- maybe not forever. But at least they won't be having to DRAG it all over Hell's half acre just to get the attention they so desperately need. Lois, of course, was almost immediately seen in a dress at the North Halsted Market Days. Tami, on the other hand, became a lesbian, married well and retired to the south of France, where she is trying to reinvent herself as the long, lost granddaughter of Coco Chanel. Poor demented bitch!





## The Bradley Bell

*(Excerpt from an IAGSDC® article.)*

To properly understand the Bradley Bell one must go back to 1986. There was a Western Star retreat held and it included a cabin decorating contest. Some of the dancers called their tent "Petticoat Junction" and this was the beginning of the Bradleys.

In 1987 in Portland the Bradleys made their first appearance dressed alike as the Bradley Family. After this convention the Bradleys decided that since they had their own square dance club and their own town, they also needed their own telephone system. Of course with their own telephone system came their own telephone directory. The Bradley Bell arrived on the scene at the Phoenix convention in 1988. (The name came from a combination of their name and, of course, all those bell telephone companies.)

The Bradley Bell has served the gay and lesbian square dance community well over the years with names (and aliases), addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses for dancers throughout our square dance world.

The Bell had been a constant since 1988 but ill health forced the Bradleys to (momentarily) cease production after the 2000 convention in Baltimore. It is reassuring to know that the tradition will now continue as Gordon Macaw of Phoenix has recently taken it over. Our deep gratitude to the Bradleys for starting this project and to Gordon for continuing this amazing resource.

Bradley Bell  
PO Box 9942  
Phoenix, AZ, 85068-0942  
Phone: (602) 331-8839  
Email: [gmacaw@qwest.net](mailto:gmacaw@qwest.net)





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Carol Van Camp  
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Honky Tonk Queen Contest

Ucanleime Amy

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**Thank you  
Anne Uebelacker  
for believing in the Magic.**



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- Honky Tonk Queen Wannabee's
- The Renaissance Vancouver
- Bob Kohl
- Sally Holt

And to all the volunteers whose help was invaluable,  
and without whom we could not have done this.

**Thank you all for being part of the Magic.**



We Remember



## Heroes Just The Same

We have all had friends and lovers that we have lost to AIDS...  
The girl upstairs, the guy next door ... our lovers and our kids...  
No one gave you medals, the world doesn't know your name...  
In our eyes you're heroes just the same.

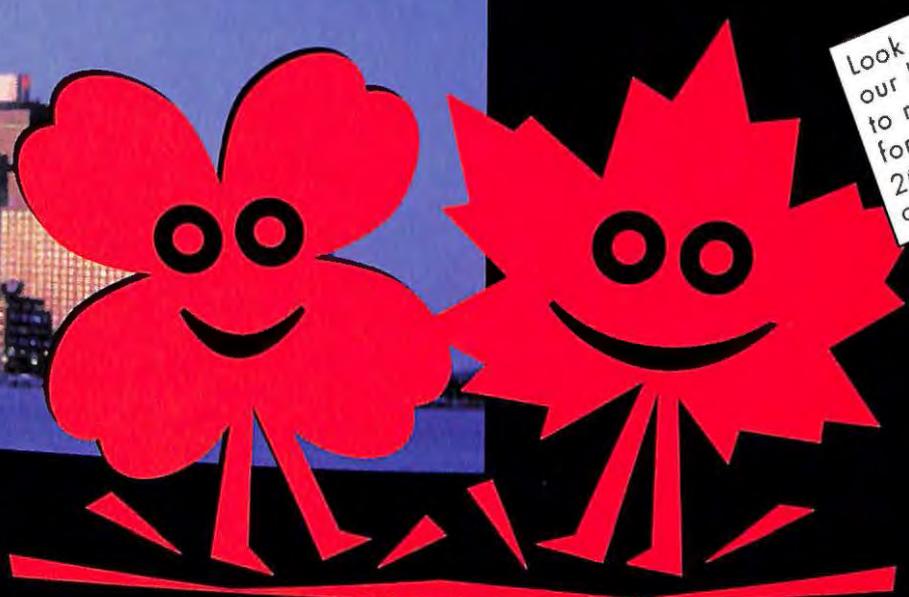
Here we are all gathered, your square dance family...  
We've come to celebrate your lives and the happiness once shared...  
We know you're here with us tonight, and yes, we know your names...  
Most of all, we love you just the same.

And most of all, we love you just the same.

*Performed by Anne Uebelacker  
with The Vancouver Men's Chorus*

Congratulations Vancouver  
for sharing the **MAGIC!**

Join us in Toronto for the  
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Look for  
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