



PRESIDENTS REPORT : JULY 2008

Howdy Folks!!

Wow!! What a night we had on Saturday 28th June at our 12th Annual Gala Ball; if you weren't there for whatever reasons, you certainly missed a great night. Yes, our numbers were down a little on last years attendance, but the people that I spoke to during the night, were all having a great time.

This years Ball committee had the venue looking absolutely brilliant, the table decorations were amazing.

I just loved the 2 HUGE snowmen at the front of the stage, and it was such a shame that they all had to be destroyed at the end of the night.

A big thank you to this years Ball committee for the effort that everyone put in, to create the perfect night.

Congratulations to Karen Burr (Belle of the Ball) & also to Geoff Ford (Beau of the Ball). I am glad it wasn't me that had to choose; you all looked fantastic; you were all winners.

Our Line Dancers here in Victoria are still divided as to where the Ball should be held, which is a good thing, it would be very boring if we all liked the same. Some say it should be at Springers, some say keep it at MSAC, some say go back to Recwest, and we will never please everyone, no matter where we have the Ball.

There are "for's' & 'against" for each venue, they all have their good & bad points.

The beauty about having the Ball at MSAC is the location; this venue is right smack bang in the centre of Melbourne, close to the city, Motels, Airport etc.

By having the Ball here makes it fair for everyone; if we go to Springers, then it's not fair for those people travelling from Western Victoria (Hamilton, Horsham, Warrnambool etc); if we go to Recwest, then the people from the Eastern side (Sale, Bairnsdale, Warragul) would have to travel a far greater distance.

Let me ask you one thing! How many of us travel into the city to attend footy matches, concerts, Casino, Aquarium, Airport, markets etc?

If your answer was "yes I do", then why will you travel any other time of the year into the city, but when it comes time to support our Ball, some of you grumble & groan? This is one night a year were the whole of our Line Dancing community should come together & celebrate the fantastic, inexpensive, friendly past time that we all love.

Hmmm, that's given you something to ponder about.

The other great thing about MSAC is the size of the venue, depending on our numbers we can either bring the hall size in or take it out; unfortunately at the other venues we don't have that luxury.

I guess this discussion will go around & around in circles for a very long time.

All the VLDA is trying to do is to make it fair for everyone.

Take care, stay safe & keep dancing.

Darren Mitchell : PRESIDENT VLDA