

Gotta Dance!

Story by Nancy Neukirchner

Photos by Bill Hughes

Dance conjures up many different images for the varied student body at A&M. Some picture a slick, wooden floor with couples in Ropers and Wranglers two-steppin' to Waylon or Willie, and others imagine slam dancing to the Dead Kennedys. Still others think of boppin' with babes to top-forty tunes at local clubs.

But there's a group of students at A&M that doesn't need partners to dance.

The Dance Arts Society offers classes in jazz, ballet, tap, modern dance, pointe and aerobics to anyone who wants to join — whether they're blessed with grace or cursed with clutz.

For \$25 a semester, members can attend as many classes per week as their bodies can handle. Most classes are offered at either the beginning or intermediate level, except for aerobics and pointe.

Carie Rivers, treasurer of Dance Arts, says there are about 60 members enrolled this semester, but many attend classes who haven't paid their dues yet. Officers expect official membership to double by the end of the semester, she says.

Dance Arts president Ginger Maples says the goal of the organization is to present dance as an art form to A&M students and give them a chance to participate in dance activities.

"We want people to know that dance is alive at A&M," she says.

While A&M is a long way from accepting dance as a major course of study, Maples says attitudes toward the organization have changed since she joined three years ago.

"People are taking it (dance) a lot more seriously," she says.

Maples says that one part of

Continued on page 10

