

## Scooter Lee gets Villagers dancing at workshop

By JILL SHERMAN  
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**THE VILLAGES** – The excitement of shuffling rhythmically in the midst of country dance music singer Scooter Lee was almost too much for Ted Pearson.

Pearson, a Glenbrook resident, admitted he may not have been ready for Lee's Dancing for the Dream workshop that was guaranteed to keep line dancers moving and grooving for an entire day.

"I'm just hoping my feet will match what my brain is telling them to do," Pearson said, waiting to enter Savannah Center's Scarlett O'Hara Theatre on Monday morning with his wife, Kaye.

The Memorial Day workshop took on a patriotic flair as the approximately 250 participants, most of them dressed in red, white and blue, gathered on the dance floor and warmed up to a patriotic medley. At one point, everyone in the room paused for a moment of silence to remember generations of soldiers who have



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**Scooter Lee entertains the crowd during a line dance workshop Monday.**

died while defending American freedom.

The workshop was offered through The Villages Lifelong Learning College. It was a continuation of sorts of the

Boot Scooter Ball, which Lee hosted Sunday evening at La Hacienda Center. According to Linda Wilson, who attended the ball with her husband, Beryl, the dance featured

Lee's music and a lot of fancy footwork peppered with instruction.

"It was wonderful. We just

**See SCOOTER, D6**

### SCOOTER, from D4

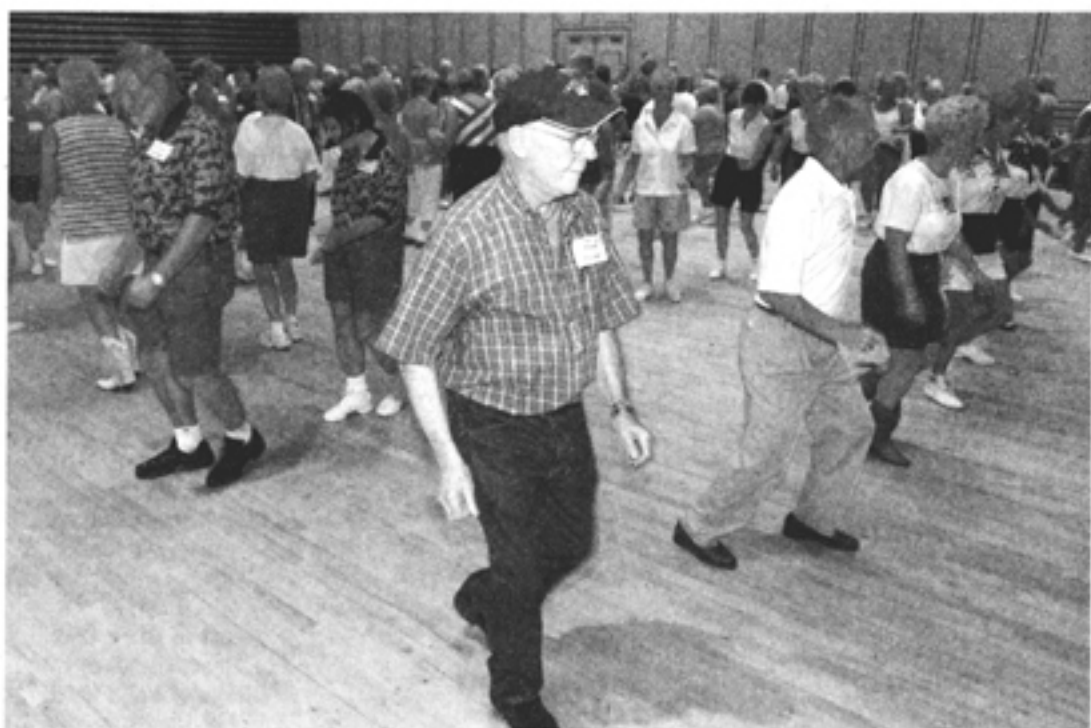
danced and danced," Wilson, a Piedmont resident, said. "Her voice is fantastic."

The Dancing for the Dream workshop, which Lee co-created, was designed to get people age 50 and older involved in an active lifestyle through low impact dance. Workshops are conducted all over the United States and proceeds are, in return, contributed toward researching the benefits of line dancing in individuals over age 50.

In keeping with the push for leading a wholesome lifestyle, heart healthy Subway sandwiches were served for lunch. And when dancers initially flocked to the hardwood floor, Lee started them off with her slow-paced song, "Come Dance With Me."

"We don't want to get your heart pumping yet," Lee said. "We want to raise the rate gradually."

Lee's "Dream Team" of instructors Joanne Brady, Barry and Dari Ann Amato, Rose Haven and Rosie Multari guided the crowd of dancers through steps and maneuvers, catering to different levels of experience. According to Lee, instructors have perfected methods for teaching the starter, beginner



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**Frank McGrath line dances during a workshop Monday at Savannah Center.**

and intermediate dance levels. There was indeed hope for people with two left feet and a desire to succeed on the dance floor.

"For those of you who are tapping your feet," Lee said, "we know how to make you move."

Dancers were invited to shimmy as they followed Brady's lead to Lee's "Swingin' Thing," and the majority of them – including men – shimmied with gusto.

While Judy Olds of Lady Lake pranced and smiled, she sang nearly every word to Lee's songs. Olds was a big fan of Lee's and this was her first opportunity to see her idol in action.

"She is very high-energy,"

Olds said. "She gets you going."

*Jill Sherman is a reporter with the Daily Sun. She can be contacted by telephone at 753-1119, ext. 253, or by e-mail at jill.sherman@thevillagesmedia.com.*