# Pourparler Speaks

***by Karen Kaufman et al.***

Last year's Pourparler, an annual gathering of people who teach dance in school and community settings, took place at Folklore Village in Dodgeville, Wisconsin in October. Pourparler is a staffless event. It is more like a guild meeting than a conference. It is more like falling in love than any other meeting or workshop I have ever attended. Imagine thirty creative, energetic, talented, thoughtful people committed to deepening their own learning about dance while at the same time maintaining a high level of investment in your learning as well. Imagine that a room full of strangers becomes intimate in the way only dance and music can create intimacy. Imagine your dance repertoire increased, your motivation enhanced and your inspiration fed. That's Pourparler.

For those interested in "just the facts," Pourparler 2002 was the sixth year for this incredible event. It moves around the country to increase accessibility. Participants share repertoire and expertise. The event is put together by a committee ably headed by Sanna Longden of Evanston, Illinois. Participants range from university dance professors to self-designated "itinerant dance leaders." Styles range from Anglo-American through mm1 theurnuaf Fors tmoeadn/y creati.er Scialirtancreng of Participantd ir 200s randge fromfgenhint danctoer

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Who wouldn't want some of all that?

*Pourparler is sponsored by several fine organizations committed to the health and well being of dance and dancers. They wish to thank CDSS through the May Gadd/Phil Merrill Endowment Fund, daCi USA, National Folk Organization, New England Dancing Masters and Folklore Village. Pourparler 2003 will be held September 18-21 in Seattle. For more information, contact: Sanna Longden at sannamars@aol.com. This article was written by Karen Kaufman, Marion Rose, Susan Wickett-Ford, Laraine Miner, Katherine St. John, Carol Johnson, Peter Amidon and Sue Hulsether and published in the CDSS News, issue #171, March/April 2003.*