

# What do the movie "Dirty Dancing" and NEAFCS have in common?

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When you think about the 1987 movie hit "Dirty Dancing" starring Patrick Swayze and Jennifer Grey, who does not start singing..." I've had the time of my life..." and can see that epic final dance? The movie, set in the Catskill Mountains at the Grossinger Resort, is a tale of summer love and resort vacations. What is the link to NEAFCS? **Fifty years ago, in 1973, our association held its Annual Session at Grossinger's!**



Executive Vice-President of the Resort, Elaine Grossinger Estess, shared "The Grossinger Tradition" at the Sunday evening dinner hour, setting the stage for a week of meetings and special activities. Cleo Bryan, Oklahoma, was President that year, with the conference theme being "A Time For Renewal," which encouraged personal, professional, institutional, and association renewal. Keynoter Dr. Oddvar Berg encouraged members to "take time to learn, to live deeply and put more emphasis on the heart and not so much on the intellectual."

**Highlights of the meeting included a 3-part in-depth series on renewal, member "Crosstalks," the presentation of the new "Paraprofessional Award," luncheons hosted by the Campbell Soup Company and General Foods, 61 educational exhibits, and MUCH more!** The traditional closing of the annual meeting was a fashion show by Simplicity Pattern Company, Inc. and Coats and Clark, Inc. The registration chairman reported a total registration of 1361 attendees. **The Grossinger shared that it was the longest and largest convention held at the hotel.**

While no "dirty dancing" was recorded at the Annual Session, I would love to hear what members that attended the session remember about the Grossinger and this incredibly special resort that no longer exists. **Please let me know if you were there and have stories to share!**

FYI- the genesis of this article was sharing what was happening 50 years ago. It became a historian's "rabbit hole" as I did some research on Grossingers, the Borscht Belt, watched "Dirty Dancing," and can't stop singing, " I've had the time of my life.....in NEAFCS!"