

NWCA NEWSLETTER April 2017

Welcome Spring! That's what we'd all like to be saying right about now but it seems Mother Nature wants us to stay cool a while longer! My garden is crying because I haven't been to visit in a while but until things dry out a bit, it is just going to have to wait! How about yours?

Thank you to those of you who submitted articles for this issue. It must have been a long cold winter & everyone went into hibernation mode since it's been like pulling teeth to get something for this issue! But here it is anyway!

Spring has sprung and summer will soon be here. There have already been a number of good fun workshops this year and not only in the Northwest...Southern AZ Clogging Festival, The Oregon Mid-Winter Festival, ClogDown, Mirage Magic Workshop and Possum Trot.

Below is a list of some upcoming workshops/dances, some local, some not so local, but all lots of fun.

NCCA Annual Convention

April 21 – 22

Sacramento, kCA

Info: Michele Hill

NWCA Oldies Workshop

April 29

Sequim, WA

Info: Mary Dart...(360)412-8142

Cowichan Valley Clog-In

May 13

Chemainus, BC

Info: Ev Champoux....(250)743-2902

Kootenay Spring Stomp Workshop

May 5 – 7

Creston, KBC

Info: Susan Woods....(250)417-7080

OSCA Workshop

May 19

Springfield, OR

Info: Megan Weidenhaft.....(541) 747-7780

Clogging With the Stars

May 26 – 29

Cle Elem, WA

Info: Ane Mills....AnneMills121@comcast.net

Clogover Vine Workshop

June 16 – 18

Kelowna, BC

Info: Barbara Bizovie...(250)768-8557

NWCA Annual Workshop and General Meeting

Sept 22 – 23

Vancouver, WA

Info: Mike McDow...(503)620-8032

Mary Dart.... (360)412-8142

As we have stated in previous newsletters and workshops, we are only 6 months away from our 30th anniversary & Mary is busy working and planning some fun things. One of our main focuses is to contact and invite past members of NWCA and we need your help. If you know of anyone who used to be a member of NWCA, we'd love to know "Where Are They Now?" Let one of the Board members know if you have any information on these past members. They might even like to come for a visit on our 30th anniversary!

At this past NWCA Workshop/General Meeting, it was discussed about a "redesign" of the NWCA logo. The idea behind the redesign discussion was to possibly bring the logo up to a more updated look. A motion was made to ask the membership if anyone could redesign the NWCA logo for free and bring it to the next September meeting. So if any of you are good with graphics or know someone who is, please give it a shot. **NOTE: To date, there has been only 1 idea submitted.**

And of course, if you have not renewed your membership for 2017, it has expired. Please remember, our membership runs from January 1 to December 31.

If you have any suggestions/ideas for making NWCA a better association, please send them to me. My email address is Mike_McDow@yahoo.com **Mike_McDow@yahoo.com**.

Mike

Oldies Workshop

It's fast approaching, so mark your calendar for April 29 from 9:00am to 5:00pm. in Sequim, Wa. We have Alberta Stamp, Barb Guenette, Diane Jacobsen, John Musser, Mary Dart, Mike McDow, and Tracy Turner teaching this year. We have 10 dances, 1 EZ, 6 EZ Intermediate, 2 Intermediate and 1 advanced. Something for everyone. So come out and have a great fun filled day of dancing and friendship. Remember it's **FREE** to NWCA members and only \$7.00 to non members. You can always pay your membership dues at the door to get into the workshop. See you all on the dance floor.

30th ANNUAL WORKSHOP AND DANCE

As you know this marks our 30th year and we are looking for everyone that used to dance with us. Can you believe it 30 years? What we are trying to do is find those that are no longer dancing and send them an invitation to join us Saturday evening 5:30 to 7:00 for a reception down in the dining area. If they'd like to stay and dance great. So what I need from you is names and contact info of dancers from the past 30 years. We are planning on sending out invites by postcards or if no address by e-mail. Please send what you know to me: Mary Dart



madclgr@comcast.net

Thanks so much, Mary

TANGLEFOOT CLOGGERS

I guess we are all glad to say winter is gone. Some of our classes were canceled because of snow or icy roads. No fun for sure.

Classes have been going good. Graduation was fun and now on to another beginner class. Hoping to get a lot of beginners.

Workshops have started and are so fun. This year some of us have already started attending and lots of new routine learned by all. First was **Mid-Winter** in Albany, OR with Barry Welch teaching us. Fun was had by all.

Next was **CLOG DOWN** in Vancouver, WA with Eric Bice and the Clog Down dance won by Leslie Huffman and Carol Smith. Fun, Fun, Fun. Seeing all our friends and making new ones and of course dancing.

I went south to the Phoenix area and went to a one day workshop with Dave Roe, Ginny Bartes, Duane Steele, Pat Lunne, and Mike McDow. Good routines were taught and the friendships were great. It was good seeing Dave and Duane after all these years.

Then I went over to Oxnard, CA to **Possam Trot** workshop with Jeff Driggs, Kellee Ramirez, Barry Welch, Michele Hill, and Russ and Lelia Hunsaker. It was a blast from the Old West. I was honored to be asked to cue during the Saturday evening dance so I became a wanted criminal. Reward for Mitten Mary for playing with all the little buckaroos. The decorations were great. They always go all out. So much fun catching up with all my California friends and always making new friends.

My next workshop is **NCCA** in Sacramento, CA and all the northern CA instructors. A few of us that were at Clog Down are going to dance with some from California doing "Setting the World on Fire" during the exhibition show. Going to be fun.

After that is **NWCA Oldies** workshop in Sequim, WA. Don't forget it's free if you are a NWCA member.

Happy Dancing and hope to see you all on the dance floor somewhere, Mary Dart

Good News! If you live in either Mt Vernon, WA or on Whidbey Island, there are 2 places where you can clog!

In Mt Vernon : Mt Vernon Senior Center 360-416-1585 & The Clogging Place 360-424-9675
In Oak Harbor: Oak Harbor Senior Center 360-279-4580 & In Langley, Wa at Equipped 4 Life Gym 425-299-4832

CLOGGING, the epilog

19 years ago, I embarked on a new and exciting adventure. I have just turned 45 years old and had been saying for years, "I really wanna learn how to clog dance." I'm a potter and for years, my husband Dave and I would attend art shows with our pottery. I ALWAYS checked the schedule right away to see if cloggers were on the entertainment list. I watched them with awe and amazement and told myself, someday....someday. I talked my best friend Lucy into joining me at the community college night class where we met our teacher, Carol Colton. A woman of grace, talent, and I swear wings. The way she glided across the floor effortlessly was unbelievable and her feet made sounds like a well-tuned instrument. I knew I had found something I would love and do forever.

Forever has knocked on my door a bit sooner than I planned. It is with great sadness, but great hope, that I am saying goodbye to this incredibly wonderful part of my life. Sometimes, you just have to face the fact that you can't keep doing things that are causing havoc with your body.

After spending years with increase shoulder and neck pain and recently numbing in my

upper back and arm, I finally decided to seek someone's opinion other than my own self-diagnosis. Long story short, X-rays indicate that I MUST give up all compression activities, including clogging and my morning run.

I am super sad, but also know that God has a plan far greater for me than I can see right now. I have made so many wonderful friends in my years of clogging...not only with the people I have been blessed to teach this awesome form of dance to, but for all the incredible friends I have made outside of Cherry City Cloggers, at workshops and at demos.

I wish that I could tell you that I will see you on the dance floor in the future, but that does not seem to be in the cards. And I would never be able to be on the sidelines watching.

I trust with all my heart that God has a new adventure in store for me! CLOG ON friends! Cheri Posedel

1 Corinthians 2:9

But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him" —

ACTIVE CLOGGING CLUB LOOKING FOR AN INSTRUCTOR

Cherry City Cloggers is a vibrant and fun-loving club looking for an instructor to come and help our faithful cloggers grow in their skills. At this time, there are 3 classes being offered on Tuesday nights, from 4pm until 7:30pm.

The 4pm class is an hour-long class for mid level intermediate dancers who like a slower pace of teaching and dancing.

(At this present time, there is also a short 20 minute teach following the 4pm class for our youth who love to perform at demos)

5:45pm-6pm is our beginner class, followed by our intermediate class from 6:30-7:30pm.

If you know of anyone who might be interested in instructing in Salem, Oregon at a beautiful facility, please contact MaryEllen Ramseyer, club president.



ramseyer_mary@hotmail.com

Some of the "Possum Trot Gang". Recognize anyone?
Photo submitted by Mary Dart.





One-day Workshop in Phoenix, AZ
Photo submitted by Mary Dart

One of the dance halls at Possum Trot 2017. See anyone you know?

Calling all Cloggers!

Did you know that this year the state Square Dance Festival will not have clogging due to a lack of volunteers?

Next year I have the privilege of being the clogging coordinator for the State Square Dance festival. We are going to be in Kennewick Washington in June. .

I have asked Ian Enriquez from California to be the featured Instructor. He is an up and coming young instructor who is very excited to share his talents with us.

However, there is a problem. The festival committee has expressed a concern that we will not have enough Cloggers to support a featured instructor.

These workshops are how Instructors get to share their new routines and dancers get a chance to learn and dance new dances. However, that cannot happen without YOU. So, I am asking all of you to please place this (and other) workshops on your calendar and SHOW UP. Let's not let clogging die.

Alberta

SAN ANTONIO ANYONE?

If you have never been to a National Clogging Convention & would like to "someday", you might want to consider attending this year in San Antonio, Texas!

The resort where Convention will be held is absolutely amazing! It is VERY family oriented & family-friendly so your whole family could attend & find something to do even if they do not clog!

When the Executive Committee visited the resort in early March to finalize halls, etc, we were treated to a tour of the grounds & hotel after having a wonderful breakfast! While touring the grounds, we saw families on bicycles all over the place. Turns out, there are bikes for riding that are parked at different locations on the grounds. If you see a bike parked & would like to ride, you can do just that & there is no charge! And no reservation needed! Children must have a helmet but adults can get away without.

There are so many activities right at the resort you may never want to leave! (We do hope you'll want to join us Friday evening tho for our outing to the River Walk for the Christmas parade!).

There is a 27-hole golf course, a 5-acre water park that includes a lazy river, water slide & multiple pools, a Spa!, Flow Rider, movies on the lawn, s'mores by the fire, jogging trails, & nature trail. If you decide to venture away from the resort, Sea World Texas is just 1.5 miles away. Then there's the famous River Walk & of course the Alamo!

As you register at the front desk you'll notice an events board. On that are the days' activities. Things such as wildlife feeding at 8am every day might be just what the kids need!

There are 9 restaurants to suit any appetite. We had breakfast in the Springhouse Cafe & it was amazing! And I can see that Charlie's Long Bar may become the gathering place for cloggers! Younguns are allowed in until 9pm when the adults take over. There's shuffleboard, darts, etc in there to keep you busy. The General Store not only has your snack foods but sells coffee & breakfast items as well.

We are hoping the weather will be warm that weekend since we are planning to hold the Thanksgiving dinner outside! That's right - on the deck outside. And yes, we do have a plan B if the weather does not co-operate with us.

They have waived the resort fee & the parking fee for cloggers as well. And the internet is free anywhere! Make your reservations thru CLOG at www.clog.org.

You can check out the resort at www.hillcountry.regency.com. but do remember in order to get our special rate, you MUST book through CLOG.

Questions? Contact CLOG at www.clog.org

Hope to see you in San Antonio in November!

Have you ever wondered how the site for the National Clogging Convention is chosen? Maybe I can help you solve the mystery.

At least 3 years prior to Convention, the Executive Committee is deciding on locations where we might possibly hold convention. We try to pick a location that is a "destination" & somewhere families would like to travel. Once a city is chosen, then Susan goes to work to hunt out hotels that would work for us as cloggers.

When the hotels have been narrowed down (after many phone calls, emails, etc) to about 3, then the executive committee takes a trip to that city to make the final decision as to which hotel they feel would best suit CLOG. This year, the winner was the Hyatt Regency Hill Country in San Antonio, Texas! And what a resort it is!

Our trip started in Dallas. Why, you wonder would we start there when we could have flown right to San Antonio. Well, the weekend we chose to visit was also the same weekend as the Texas Clogging Rally in Waco. It just made sense for us to fly to Dallas, drive down to Waco on our way to San Antonio & stop off at the Rally to promote convention.

And no visit to Waco is complete without a visit to Magnolia Market - home of Fixer Upper! If you are a fan this is a must! We spent a very enjoyable morning & afternoon there & then decided we'd like to visit the shop of Joanna's friend Jimmy Don. He's the one who does the beautiful iron signs for her on the show.

The address was plugged into Waze & away we went! Figuring we would be going down the highway, it was quite a surprise to find we were travelling the back roads of central Texas. Maybe his shop is on one of these roads? Nope! But we did see a lot of the countryside, finally coming out onto a highway & there was his shop! After browsing & watching the guys at work, we asked the gal on the desk what was the easiest way back to Waco. Turns out we only had to travel about 2 miles before getting on the highway back to Waco & it took us less than 30 minutes (that is if we hadn't stopped off at the antique shops!). Took us at least an hour to get there!

The next day was promoting convention at the Texas Rally & even checking out possible instructors. Then it was off to San Antonio to meet with the hotel staff to set up the ballrooms for our convention.

After a wonderful breakfast, we toured the grounds of the hotel & then spent the afternoon with hotel staff checking out the ballrooms & deciding on the configuration for our convention. It takes a long time to do this since we want things to run smoothly for all concerned.

It was a whirlwind weekend with 5 nights spent in 5 different hotels! We returned home exhausted but satisfied that Convention 2017 will be the best one yet! Now to really promote this site!

If you want more info on the hotel itself, go to their website at

www.hillcountry.regency.hyatt.com where you can check out everything!

Please contact me at bguenette@shaw.ca if you have any questions. Or you can contact CLOG at www.clog.org as well.