

# THE DOUBLE TOE TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 2

A Clogging Newsletter

February 1985

## Fire On The Mountain Cloggers San Antonio, Texas

BY: LINDA CAROLAN

In a city as culturally diverse as San Antonio (the home of such folk dance troupes as the Ballet Folklórico de Navarro, DansAmerica, and Compania de Arte Espanol) it might seem that the FIRE-on-the-MOUNTAIN Cloggers would be out of place.

Because of their high volume of exhibitions plus the enthusiasm and crowd response during performances, the FIRE-on-the MOUNTAIN Cloggers no longer find it surprising that they are in great demand. The twenty-four members of the FIRE-on-the-MOUNTAIN Cloggers perform both traditional and precision clogging (as well as buck dancing) using strictly bluegrass music. The 119 exhibitions which the team performed last year ranged from television appearances to church picnics; from business conventions, festivals, county fairs to lawn mowings; from bluegrass concerts to nursing homes.

Directors, Rusty and Linda Carolan, have a background of bluegrass music and dancing feet.



Linda Carolan has often heard tales of her great grandfather who did what older relatives called a "jig" dance. At the age of eight, Linda was intrigued by her great grandmother's dancing

(Continued on Page 6)



## Cascade Country Cloggers

Everett, Washington

BY: Audrey Metz

In the summer of 1983 we were contacted by Bobbie Adams from Orlando, Florida, who was visiting in our area. She was interested in meeting cloggers in western Washington State. Our

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# THE DOUBLE TOE TIMES

PUBLISHER/EDITOR

Lindy Reyes & Bobbie Adams

A Clogging Newsletter

An Independent Newsletter not affiliated with any club or association. Functions promoting State or National Organizations and Benefits for Non-Profit charitable causes will be advertised free of charge, space permitting.

Club news, comments, and items of interest will be published without charge as space permits. We reserve the right to edit or reject any copy or ads not germane to the spirit of this Newsletter. Copy for ads and news must be received by the 10th of the month preceding next issue. All checks must be payable to:

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Bobbie Adams....305/834-8255

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Lindy

# Front & Center



Bobbie

Clogging News from a wide area is filtering in --- takes a while to thaw out the letters tho' ! Indiana having difficulty organizing a State-wide Association; Southern California has new Editor of Hillbilly Herald, (SCCA Sam and his wonderful dry humor are sorely missed) and apparently the Association has divided into two branches --- Instructors and SCCA General Members. This always did seem like a logical division. The Square Dancers have had two groups for years: Callers and Dancers. They interact nicely each being dependant on the other, but each having separate concerns. Maybe its a wave of things to come! Also received three letters from Northern Michigan - reckon they are completely snowed in - 'cause one said she didn't need music this winter, she clogged to the tune of chattering teeth.

Our friend from Seattle better ante up --- the Dolphins got their revenge from last years rout and the Sea Hawks had to put their heads under their wings all the way home!

Cousin David: Am framing the Ansel Adams photograph --- it must have been deja vu that you like my favorite photographer. The January Buck Steps should keep you very busy! My Christmas highlight was Baryshnikov/Nutcracker and a special joy was sending my 7 year old Grandson to see his first live Nutcracker. He loved it!!!

The Florida Clogging Council's Instructors Workshop, held in the DeBary Fire Station, DeBary, Florida, January 19, 1985 was attended by 35 Active and Associate Instructors. Jane Grove, organizer of the event, reported an excellent workshop program.

The Florida Clogging Council Meeting, January 20th, had less than the required quorum (51% of the ACTIVE membership) once again preventing any business from being conducted. The F.C.C. has been unable to conduct a business meeting since the May 1984 elections, failing to attain a quorum in August - Celebration, October - Jacksonville, and now the Instructors Clinic. The proposed by-laws changes correcting this matter purportedly will be accomplished by mail to the 86 Active members prior to the Tallahassee Convention in March. Additionally Treasurers records which according to the F.C.C. by-laws were to have been turned over to the new Treasurer 10 days after the May election, are still missing, resulting in an incomplete Treasurers report.

President, Glenda Slenk, appealed for assistance from all F.C.C. members for the first F.C.C. Convention in Tampa, Florida. She announced that there would be a Clogging program at the 33rd Square & Round Dance Convention, held the same weekend in Lakeland, Florida. (Sue and Tom Toor, Chairmen).

Don Staggs, Syllabus advertising, asked all advertisers to have their copy to him by March 30, 1985. It was announced that there will be 24 performance slots, now nearly filled, and suggested that each accepted performance group supply two Convention workers.



# Upcoming Events

- Feb. 1 & 2      1985 Texas Clogging Rally  
Eules, Texas  
Theresa Eddins - 817-571-1975
- Feb. 2      2nd Annual Pirates Ball  
Expo Centre, Orlando, FL  
For more information contact:  
305-695-6437 or 834-8255
- Feb. 2      Diane Schell Benefit  
Decatur, Georgia  
Don & Sylvia Rakestraw  
404-435-3339
- Feb. 3      CLOG-A-THON for Easter Seals  
For more information contact:  
Jane Grove - 904-357-0796
- Feb. 22 & 23      4th Annual CSRA Clogging  
Festival - Augusta, GA  
The Civic Center  
601 - 7th Street, Augusta, GA  
For more information contact:  
Peggy Gasque - 404-863-9074
- Mar. 7, 8, &  
9      NCHC Spring Festival  
Asheville, North Carolina  
For more information contact:  
Ruth Landis - 919-467-6861
- Mar. 22 & 23      Springtime Tallahassee Clogging  
Festival - Tallahassee, FL  
For more information contact:  
Rex & Dot Akridge  
904-877-6642
- Mar. 29 & 30      4th Annual Master City Clogging  
Championship - Augusta, GA  
For more information contact:  
James & Aileene Carter  
720 Heard Avenue  
Augusta, GA 30904  
404-736-2698
- Apr. 4, 5 &  
6      3rd Annual Possum Holler  
Clogging Workshop - Fontana  
Village, N.C.  
For more information contact:  
JoAnn Gibbs - 404-498-2238
- Apr. 12 - 14      Northern California Cloggers  
Association 2nd Annual Clogging  
Convention - Stockton, CA  
San Joaquin County Fairgrounds  
For more information contact:  
Bob & Bonnie Staley  
6950 Long Valley Spur  
Castroville, CA 95012
- Apr. 20      2nd Annual Cypress Gardens  
Clogging Festival & Family  
Fun Day  
For more information contact:  
Bill McMahon - 813-936-7989

- May 24, 25 &  
26      1st Annual Florida Clogging  
Council State Clogging Con-  
vention  
Curtis-Hixon Convention Center  
Tampa, FL  
Convention Director:  
Lynn Cleary - 305-671-2578
- May 24, 25 &  
26      Florida State Square & Round  
Dance Convention - Lakeland, FL  
Clogging program held at the  
Mirror Lake Hall - Lakeland  
Clogging Program Coordinators:  
Sue & Tom Toor - 305-695-6437
- May 24, 25 &  
26      Florida Folk Life Festival  
The Stephen Foster Memorial  
White Springs, FL
- June 1      Clogging at the Texas State  
Square & Round Dance Festival  
San Antonio Convention Center  
San Antonio, TX  
For more information contact:  
Rusty & Linda Carolan  
606 East Ramsey  
San Antonio, TX 78216  
512-344-2557
- June 14, 15 &  
16      3rd Annual Clogging Extravaganza  
SILVER DOLLAR CITY  
For more information contact:  
Silver Dollar City  
Clogging Extravaganza  
Marvel Cave Park, MO 65616  
ATTN: Rex Burdette  
417-338-8188  
(See ad in March Issue.)
- June 14, 15 &  
16      CLOG CAMPUS '85  
Clinch Valley College of the  
University of Virginia  
Wise, Virginia  
For more information contact:  
Mrs. Anna R. Breeding  
CLOG CAMPUS Coordinator  
Clinch Valley College of the  
University of VA  
Post Office Box 16  
Wise, VA 24293  
703-328-2431, Ext. 263
- June 27, 28 &  
29      34th National Square Dance  
Convention - Birmingham, AL  
For Clogging information contact:  
Kevin & Theresa Sellev  
5405 Timberline Ridge  
Mobile, AL 36609  
205-666-CLOG

PLEASE NOTE: Non-Profit State or National Organizations [or functions run for the total benefit of a charitable cause], receive free advertising, space permitting. Others who place a paid advertisement in The Double Toe Times, will also be included in Upcoming Events.

EDITORS



BY: SCOTTY BILZ

Through experiences teaching Buck Dancin' to people across the country, I've begun to realize how critical people can be of themselves. It takes an average of twelve weeks to learn just the basics of clogging, (not including all the hours of practice at home). Some folks pick it up more quickly than others. In order to learn this style of clog-dancing called Buck Dancin' you have to first pay careful attention to your Instructor, and then practice, practice, practice, practice, and then practice some more. Here are a few tips which should aid some frustrated dancers out there.

1. When the Instructor is teaching the Basic Steps, pay close attention to what he says while he/she cues the step. **Example: Heel - Toe - Step - Heel - Ball - Heel - Step** - is the call for the Basic Buck. If you memorize this or write it down in your own words, it will make it a lot easier to practice at home.
2. If you can do the steps nice and clean, slowly, gradually build up your speed. You do not want to attempt doing it fast until you can accurately execute the step. Bad habits are hard to break.
3. Try to get the record that the Instructor used in class. Once you get up to speed, listen to the beats of the taps and music.

Diane Schell suffered a stroke on New Years Day. She is in Humana Hospital of Gwinnett in Snellville, GA. Diane is a Charter Member of National Clogging & Hoedown Council and the founder and first President of C.L.O.G. She directs the Friendship Cloggers and the "Diane Schell Dixie Clog and Western Dance Studio" in Stone Mountain, GA.

A benefit Clogging function for Diane will be held February 2, 1985 at the Decatur Recreation Center, Decatur, Georgia. Coordinators are Don & Sylvia Rakestraw (404) 435-3339. Two trust funds have been established. If you wish to make a contribution checks may be made payable to The Diane Schell Trust Fund. Checks may be mailed to the following:

C.L.O.G. John Douglas  
1184 Gunnison Court  
Clarkston, GA 30321

4. PRACTICE !
5. Keep an open mind and be proud of the way you dance for you are developing your own style.

Now, here are a list of Basic Steps that I have compiled.

(1 count)      Heel - Toe - Step  
                         L            L            L

(1 count)	Toe	Ball
	L	L

## Tennessee Walkin' Step

(Full weight bearing on Right Foot)    Lift - R    Heel - L    Toe - L    Step - L  
[occurs in 1 beat of music]

## Basic Buck

(2 counts)    **Heel-Toe-Step-Heel-Ball-Heel-Step**  
                   L     L     L     R     R     L     L

## Toe Backs

(2 counts) Tch Toe-Ball-Heel-Ball-Heel-Step  
L L R R L L

That is the end of this month's article. If you still have any questions, please write to me in care of The Double Toe Times, or you may reach me at home:

Scotty Bilz  
117 Jay Drive  
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714  
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This gentle caring lady has given much to Cloggers everywhere and we urge you to send a card (and contribution if you can) just to let her know we care:

CARDS:

Diane Schell  
1245 Maple Drive  
Lilburn, GA 30247

Diane Schell's teams will be coordinating the May 3-5 Stone Mountain, Georgia competition. For information contact:

Mrs. Leeann Alvarez  
868 Bradford Court  
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or

Kathi Hayes  
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Post Office Box 778  
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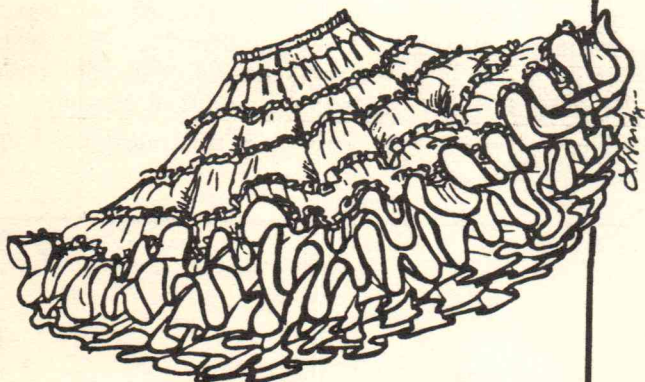
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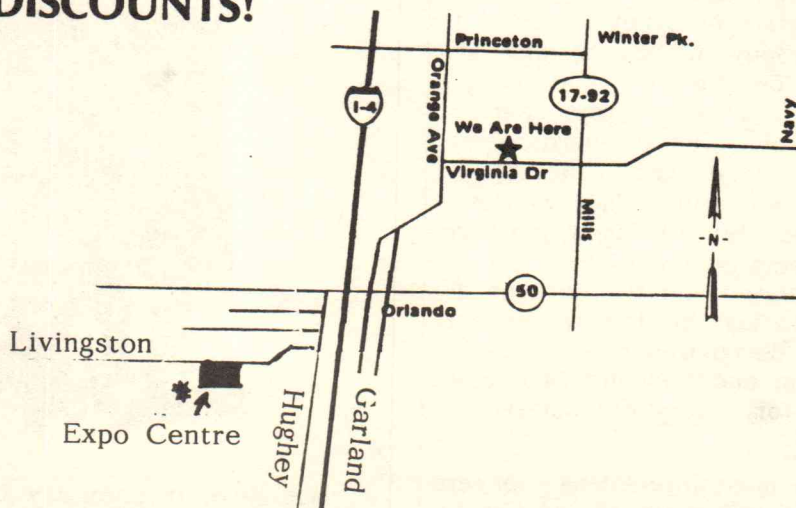
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## FIRE-ON-THE-MOUNTAIN (Continued from Page 1)

which was referred to as "flat-foot steps" and which she began to teach Linda. A fiddle playing grandfather influenced Linda's love of music. After taking some beginner clogging lessons as an adult, Linda promptly taught husband Rusty, "how it's done" and soon thereafter they began writing and performing duets. Rusty vows that he would have run faster had he known what he was getting into when Linda first announced that she needed a dancing partner. Rusty plays left-handed guitar and is currently learning 5-string banjo from Don VanWinkle, banjo player with the Tennessee Valley Authority, a bluegrass band from San Antonio which occasionally teams up with the FIRE-on-the MOUNTAIN Cloggers for bluegrass concerts, festivals and parking lot picking sessions.

Here are a few "behind the scenes" stories that took place at some of these exhibitions:

Probably the most contrasting day in the life of a FIRE-on-the-MOUNTAIN Clogger came on July 7, 1984. The team was scheduled to perform at a small fair in Goliad, Texas, which is about 90 miles from San Antonio. They were also asked to perform at a company picnic for a Solar Research company in Waco, Texas, which is about 180 miles from San Antonio, in the opposite direction. What to do? No problem. . . the company offers to fly its private Lear Jet down to pick up the group at the San Antonio airport and get them out to the private ranch just outside of Waco so that they could make the performance in time. All plans went well UNTIL. . . the show at Goliad had a hard time getting started because the cloggers were planted in the middle of Main Street to do the big performance with equipment situated under a dentist's porch across the street from the audience. No electricity. After hunting and searching madly for two more extension cords (since their one long one still would not reach) they finally borrowed one from a Lone Star Beer truck. Their first routine must have excited the audience because somebody jumped up and down so much they knocked out the cord and the power. Not to worry. . . until the rain came. The audience, except for a few die-hards, disappeared in a puff of smoke every time it started to rain, which was about three times during the 1-hour show. But the show must go on, the audience appreciated the effort; the equipment was accumulated and the caravan zoomed back to San Antonio just in time to make it to the airport for the designated rendezvous. The trip was uneventful and they did two shows in Waco that evening for a very enthusiastic audience.

Perhaps one of the most interesting cloggers on the team is a dedicated nurse named Cassie

Stephens and thus nicknamed the "incurable clogger". When Cassie had been dancing only about five months, the team did an exhibition for the Fine Arts Festival. The performance was done perched atop a platform about five feet high and constructed with rectangular planks or slats and covered with what seemed like tin foil. Needless to say, the covering was quickly shredded by flying feet during the first 30 minute show. Later, during the second performance, as the girls moved daintily forward to perform their graceful steps, Cassie managed to hook her toe tap into a corner of one of the deadly grooves in the slats and wedge it securely. After yanking at her right leg with both hands, Cassie finally abandoned her shoe to its immobile fate and proceeded to finish the routine.

The team has a bunch of hard core cloggers and proved this well by getting up at who knows what unearthly hour to perform on the television program called "Good Morning San Antonio" at approximately 6:20 am. Those present did demand solemn promises from the Carolans that this would **NEVER** happen again, BUT. . . . . three weeks later the team was out in full force dancing for the Cowboy Breakfast which is the kickoff celebration for the trail riders who symbolize the trek made by pioneer trail drivers bringing herds of cattle into market for the San Antonio Livestock Show and Rodeo. The breakfast is held in a huge parking lot around chuck wagons at (you guessed it) about 6:30 am.

(Continued on Page 8)



But Sire, it does say Double Toe Rock Step.



## FEBRUARY CLOGGING ACTIVITIES

CENTRAL FLORIDA SQUARE DANCE CENTER  
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- February 7 8:00-10:00 PM Buck Step  
John Per Mar, Guest Instructor
- February 14 8:00-10:00 PM Review Night  
Review couples routine "Ride the Train" and Buck Step workshop.
- February 15 VALENTINES DANCE (See Ad)
- February 21 8:00-10:00 PM Teach routine  
"Strut".
- February 28 8:00-10:00 PM Teach routine  
"Mountain Dew".

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# The Ride

By Foreman Heard

(With apologies to David Alan Coe)

I was hitch hiking through Orlando,  
been to the beach to get a tan.  
When someone stopped beside me  
in a customized maxi-van.  
He wore some clothes I'd never seen,  
had white gloves on each hand.  
He said, "Where ever you're going,  
I'll take you there,  
come on climb in this van, son."

Well, I jumped in beside him,  
put a tape in his cassette,  
And the songs I heard had the oddest words,  
each verse got wierder yet.  
When I noticed he had big ears and a tail,  
I felt real weak inside.  
And I knew there was something strange  
about this ride.

He said, "Mister have you ever seen  
a mouse that can dance and sing?  
Have you taken a trip on a rocketship,  
or a runaway mountain train?"  
He said, "Mister have you ever seen  
an elephant that flies?  
'Cause if you've not,  
you're in for one big surprise!"

Then he stopped outside of Disney World  
and he turned the van around.  
He said, "This is where you go in boy,  
I'm going back to Big O Town."  
As I hopped out I said to him,  
"Hey Mister, thanks a lot."  
He said, "You can call me Mickey, Mister,  
spend all the money you've got."

He said, "Mister have you ever heard  
those bears make the rafters ring?  
Have you seen a duck on a red fire truck,  
and a dragon do his thing?  
Have you ever seen a parade with lights,  
flashing all around?  
Just take lots of money  
and spend it 'fore the sun goes down."

Erma Bombecks reason for writing:

"I was too old for a paper route, too young  
for Social Security, and too tired for an affair."

FIRE-ON-THE-MOUNTAIN  
(Continued from Page 6)



Rusty and Linda Carolan have traveled to various parts of the country including North Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee, Georgia to participate in clogging festivals and workshops. Linda is Secretary of the Texas Clogging Council; holds membership in various clogging organizations; and currently teaches beginner clogging lessons for the YMCA. The Carolans have taught clogging sessions for San Antonio College, various workshops throughout Texas, as well as being on the staff at the 1983 Cloggers Jamboree in Fontana, North Carolina.

## WHICH BONE ARE YOU??

Someone said the membership of an organization is made up of four bones;  
Wishbones, who spend all their time wishing somebody else would do the work.

Jawbones, who do all the talking but very little else.

Knuckle bones, who knock everything that everybody else does.

And finally, back bones, who get the load and do the work.

— Quality Circle Digest



# Insight On The Inside

Now that everyone is back home, with good feelings about the C.L.O.G. Convention, it's time to look at just how it all was accomplished, Thanksgiving weekend 1984 in Mobile, Alabama.

The planning for this Convention had been going on for the last couple of years. The Executive Committee was formed in May of 1984. The Sunshine Cloggers of Pensacola, Florida held their 5th Anniversary Dance with JoAnn Gibbs, Tandy Barrett and Joyce England as Instructors. This afforded JoAnn the chance to gather the Gulf Coast Clogging Instructors in one room for a "Pep" Rally, as only JoAnn Gibbs can give. When the Pep Rally was over, David Spencer and the Country Cloggers were assigned registration; Debbiann Woods and her Calico Kids had decorations for all the rooms and stages and a list of signs to make that would scare a sign painter away; Butch Antone and his Panhandle Cloggers agreed to handle hospitality. Kevin Sellow was to coordinate the Syllabus; Johnny Chapay and the Riverboat Cloggers would take charge of the theater entrants; Sally Thompson and her J'Ville Cloggers had previously volunteered to organize exhibitions and Chris Rawls would set up the program. Ronnie Doggert completed this part of the team when he agreed to handle the sound. We had a few months to get our respective duties organized and into action. The team met in Mobile, Alabama on August 14th, 1984, as a group. This was the first and last time we all got together until the actual Convention. We discussed everything from advertising, to crowd control, from floors to sound, dance levels and something JoAnn kept bringing up about deadlines or whatever. We spent a lot of time on "what if's". We each were given our assignments. JoAnn and went on our merry way, dedicated to doing the best we could. Please let me make

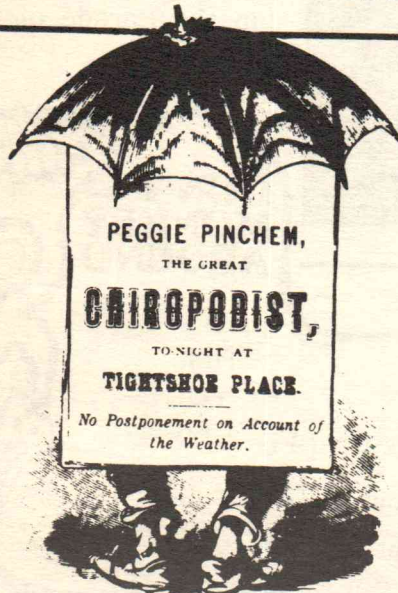
it clear that these were not the only people responsible for making the Convention a success. At last count there were around 350 people who contributed in one way or another. Each contribution was just as important and just as appreciated as the next. The old adage about "A chain is only as strong as its weakest link" applies here. There were phone calls made to all parts of the country. Instructors needed to be contacted, vendors, state associations, our clogging news media were invited to share in our Convention. Phone calls were made and letters were sent regarding badges, T-Shirts, Pins, Ribbons, Printers, sound systems and on and on.

Keep in mind that C.L.O.G. is an organization made up of dancers and instructors. This was the first time any organization such as this had attempted to put on a Convention of this size. Speaking of talent!!! We had 40 Instructors from all over the United States as well as Canada

I hope that all of the members of C.L.O.G. will feel as I do --- a sense of pride in belonging to an organization which has accomplished what was done in Mobile.

I would like to comment here about our President, JoAnn Gibbs. JoAnn is a hard headed woman with all the compassion and love you would expect from your Mother. She may not agree with you, but regardless of how busy she is, she'll take the time to listen. She is a true business woman and cares a great deal about the cloggers across the country. I was proud to do what little I could to make the convention a success. I'll be right in there next year if there should be a need. A special Thanks goes out to all who came as Dancers. This C.L.O.G. National Convention was put on for YOU!!! We sure hope you enjoyed it.

Name withheld by request..



## 1985 C.L.O.G. National Convention

A Big Bird told us that Louisville, Kentucky will be the setting for the 1985 C.L.O.G. National Convention! November 29th and 30th, 1985!

The Louisville Hyatt Regency will be the Host Hotel, and has a covered walkway to the Commonwealth Convention Center. Additionally, the Hyatt is adjacent to a covered Mall, which will be the organizing spot for the Parade of States. The City Ice Skating Rink, also near the Hotel, will be opened for C.L.O.G. Convention goers for the After Party Friday night.



## CASCADE COUNTRY CLOGGERS

(Continued from Page 1)

teen club, the Shirts-n-Skirts had been doing some clogging for a number of years as a part of their exhibitions and demonstrations. Bob and Linda Burka of Whidbey Island, brought clogging to our group from the southeast where he had been stationed with the military. Bobbie's information about clogging and a video tape of the Sunshine Cloggers of Maitland, Florida heightened our interest so much that Bill traveled to Florida to spend a week working with Sue Toor, learning how to teach as she does. Armed with much information and knowledge of steps new to us, Bill came home even more excited about clogging. Our first beginners class started in the Fall of 1983, in our rec-room, to be followed by an intermediate class early in 1984. Enough interest in clogging grew to the point where we moved to a rented Hall and began more Beginner and Intermediate classes in the Spring.

Pistols and Petticoats are primarily a pre-teen Square Dance Club. In addition to Square dance and clogging exhibitions, they devoted many hours of practice and competed in the Pacific Northwest Teen Square Dance Festival

in Burnaby, British Columbia, May 5, 1984. They placed 2nd in pre-teen exhibitions in this event and the club also have a first place novice square (first time in competition), and 3rd in calling, and 3rd in novice round dancing.

From the Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday clogging classes the Cascade Country Cloggers were formed.

The pre-teens do all the exhibitions to date. Adults are not interested in performing for anyone yet. The pre-teens perform as the Pistols and Petticoats as they do squares, rounds and calling as well as clogging but proudly wear their clogging badges too. We have as many as 26 perform at a time. Sometimes the girls fill in as boys when our boys are out with their sport teams.

We have joined the Florida Clogging Council and are in receipt of clogging syllabuses as they come into the Rockin' Rhythms Listening Post. One of our clogging students teaches Western dancing, so we've been taking a class from her. Plans to incorporate some of these steps and routines into our entertainment and party nights are in the works.



### EDITORS NOTE:

Audrey and Bill Metz are the second couple from the left, and if you think you saw them at the C.L.O.G. National in November — you did! Bill was too bashful to represent Washington in the Parade of States!

### LETTING OUT THE REINS —

Every year I live I am more convinced that the waste of life lies in the love we have not given, the powers we have not used, the selfish prudence that will risk nothing, and which, shirking pain, misses happiness as well. No one ever yet was the poorer in the long run for having in a lifetime "let out all the length of all the reins."

Mary Cholmondeley

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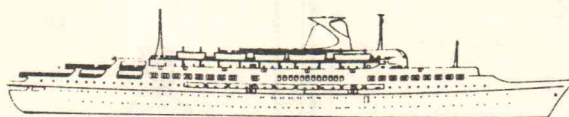
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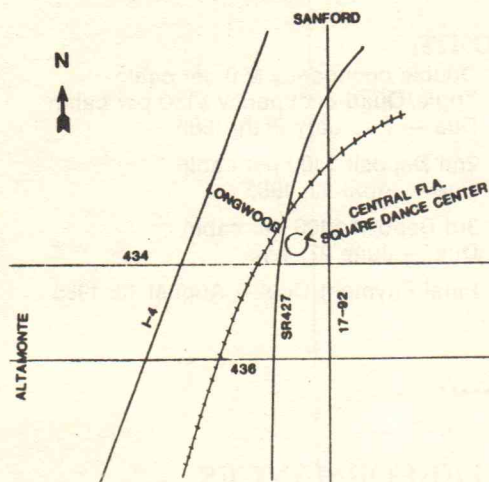
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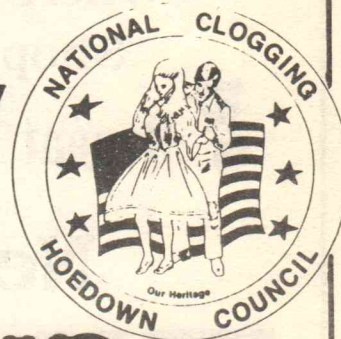
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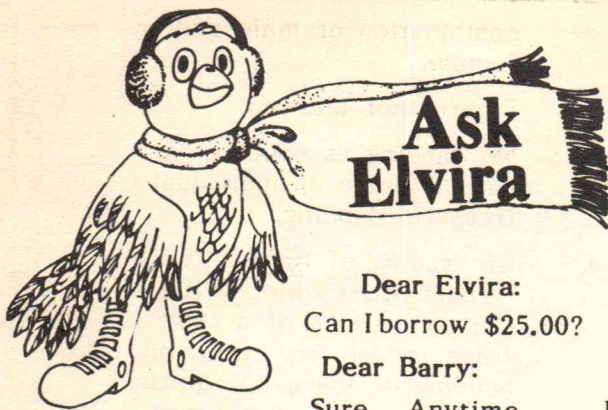
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Dear Barry:  
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Dear Elvira: My mother won't let me go out on Sunday night because I have school the next day. Do you think that's fair? Gina

Dear Gina: Listen to your mother. She usually knows what is best for you. Elvira

Dear Elvira: Should I paint my children's room or use wallpaper? Mary

Dear Mary: Paint is OK, but make sure it does not contain lead. Elvira

Dear Elvira: At a fancy dinner, which is the proper fork to use when there is more than one. Doug

Dear Doug: Start with the outside and work toward the plate. Elvira

Dear Elvira: How do you keep honey from sticking in a measuring cup? N.A.

Dear N.A.: Coat the cup with vegetable oil or spray before pouring in the honey. Elvira

Dear Elvira: This is the most boring column I have ever read. What happened to the biting sarcasm and wit that used to typify your answers? Are you the original Elvira or has someone taken over your column? F.J.

Dear F.J.: I am the original, the one and only, Elvira, but I have changed. I have decided to turn over a new leaf. I have received so much criticism in recent months that I decided to step back and take a realistic look at the way I have been handling things.

No longer will I give smart answers to seriously asked questions. No longer will I put myself above my readers. No longer will I profess to know everything and ridicule those of a lesser station. From now on I intend to have nothing but kind words for everyone. I have seen the light. I am a changed person. I hope each and everyone of you can forgive all my past indiscretions, and give me another chance. I promise I will not disappoint you. Elvira

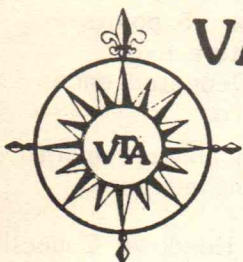
Dear Elvira: Are you serious? F.J.

Dear F.J.: What do you mean, am I serious? I said I was, didn't I? I give you a long dissertation on how my life has changed and you want to question it? You obnoxious little twerp! You wouldn't know sincerity if it were starring you in that ugly pizza looking face of yours. I'll tell you what Walrus Breath, you don't send me anymore letters and I won't spit on your grave. And that goes for the rest of you out there, too. Question my life style will you? I'd tell you what you could do with your questions only the editor would censor it. She already told me to lighten up. That's the problem with being on top, somebody always wants to bump you off.

Listen you want my job? You've got it!  
I QUIT ! ! ! ! !

Elvira

When Nature leaves a hole in a person's mind, she generally plasters it over with a thick coat of self-conceit. Longfellow



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## OBITUARIES

December 1984

Buck Lawson  
Tucker, Georgia

Cecil Masters  
Asheville, N.C.



# Competition

BY: Bobbie Adams

In this issue we begin a series on Competition. At the outset, we would like to request that if we err in any way please let us know.

These articles are the result of many comments about the lack of information, about the various competitions. Folks new to the competition arena would do well to research, write or phone the Directors, and observe several competitions before entering.

Most competitions have the following categories:

- Solo & Duet
- 8 Couple Precision
- 4 Couple Precision
- Open Precision
- Southern Appalachian Traditional
- Running Set Hoedown
- (Kentucky Hoedown)
- Smooth Mountain Square Dance
- Line Dance
- Open (Show)

There are general rules for competition, and criteria for each category according to a Judges score sheet.

Some promoters have a number of "Sanctioned" Competitions throughout the year, with yearly Overall Champions who have accumulated the most points during that Competition season. Some have trophies for only that specific competition.

Some general criteria looked for by most Judges: 1) No gum, 2) Do not look at feet, 3) Remove dangling badges, 4) Smile, 5) Do not count out loud [One score sheet had RANTING and RAVING: though we don't know what this meant.]

The mechanics of each category are defined in each Competition Guideline booklet, i. e. "minimum of 2 big circle figures" or "progression must be inside the set in a counter clockwise direction." Time limits and age and sex requirements are also outlined, and type of music stated.

Other criteria are enthusiasm, showmanship, versatility, authenticity, team timing and skill, and creativity.

The following is a list of guidelines used for Line Dance Competition taken from the National Clogging & Hoedown Council (NCHC) and the American Clogging Hall of Fame:

## GUIDELINES FOR LINE DANCE

### NATIONAL CLOGGING & HOEDOWN COUNCIL

1. Minimum of 6 dancers --- any

combination of male and/or female.

2. Figures not allowed.
3. No dancing as couples, no Rise & Shine or individual freestyle dancing.
4. No trading of lines or passing through lines which will give the appearance of a show or stage production. (i.e., no bending of lines, no rotation of line, no V's or column formations).
5. 90% of routine must be in a line --- 10% allowed for entrance and exit.
6. No body contact.
7. Progressive step change allowed.
8. No acrobatics or gymnastics.
9. Any type of music.
10. Girls may dress as boys in this category without penalty.
11. Teams or dancers entering this category may also enter other dance categories.

## GUIDELINES FOR LINE DANCE

### AMERICAN CLOGGING HALL OF FAME

1. Minimum of 6 dancers.
2. 85% of dance routine must be in a line of formation, which may split, rotate, break up and reform to add variety and uniqueness to routine.
3. No figures allowed.
4. At some time in routine, dancers must face all four walls.
5. Any type of music may be used and is to be supplied by team director.
6. Length of routine shall not exceed 5 minutes. 5 points deducted for routine over allotted time. Deducted once from overall score.

For further information about competitions, please contact the following people:

### National Clogging & Hoedown Council

Mrs. Miriam Dawson  
Route 1, Box 301  
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# THE FICKLE FINGER OF FATE



"OLD FICKLE"

Old Fickle has a case of "mid-winter jickers", a Dr. Seuss term for the blahs! The response to Humpty Dumpty (January 1985) was hilarious. Guess folks do read Fickle!

Now that the Grinch and Rudolf have gone back to wherever they came from, we thought we'd scoop our fellow Editors and let you know that J.G., Attorney-at-Law, has decided to represent that poor little old Gramma who was run over by Santa Claus. Blitzen, we understand, will turn states evidence to cop a lesser plea. Not to worry kiddies, by the time it gets to a Jury, you'll be all grown up! Yes, Virginia, there was a Santa but he's doing 1 to 10 upstate!

The Editor hasn't heard anything from Chris Haas up in Wisconsin --- or David Roe and Kay Davis in Arizona. Reckon lots of our Northern Clogging friends are skiing long about this time of year. Old Fickle used to ski --- if you can call sitz marks all the way down the Beginner Slope skiing. The very best type of skiing is done on t'other side of the lodge picture windows, next to the fire with a mug of hot mulled cider in hand. Fickle got pretty good at Introductory Rope Tow!!! 'Bout the closest Fickle comes to

skiing these days is the Down Escalator at the Mall! Ah well --- weatherman said it's going down to 40° today - better get out my long johns!!!

Fickle is reluctant to brag about Florida's weather --- don't want to encourage more folks to move down here. But there's a whole lot of Clogging goin' on, and y'all come visit, hear?

A dear droll soul gave the Editors two absolutely preposterous books and they are a quagglng quakebuttock about utilizing them properly. These gammers have yet to determine the givers geloscopy but the books are gelogenic.

Quaggle - quivering

Quakebuttock - coward

Gammer - old woman

Geloscopy - determining someone's character by the way she laughs.

Gelogenic - laughter provoking

And we learned the name of Bobbie's disorder: Iogolept - A Word Maniac.

## Sentence of the Month:

I have the flu. Sometimes I patulously snoach and others I sternutate. I am atrabilious.

And you all are shaking y<sup>e</sup>ur heads "yes, we knew they had a problem, but didn't realize it was that severe."

## COMPETITION

(Continued from Page 14)

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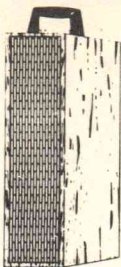
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# NAME THAT CLOGGER ? ? ? ?



1. Ma cherie, Aimee.
2. Simon Sez.



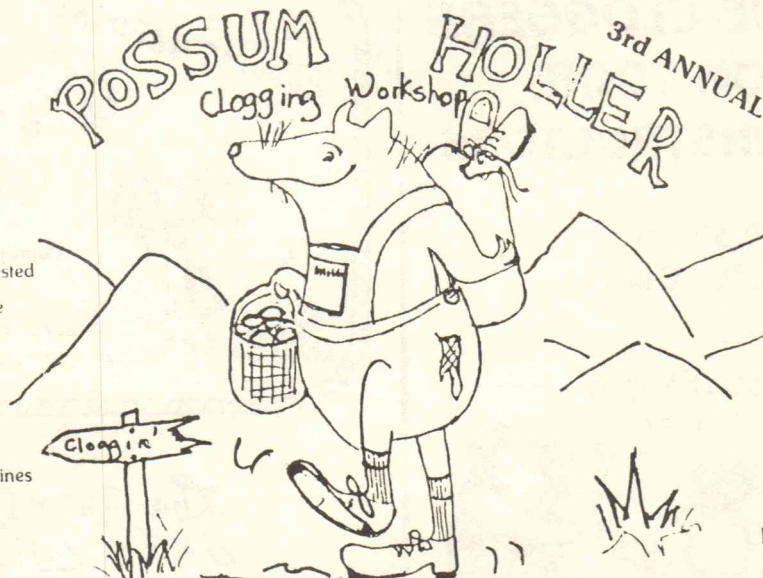
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# The Pain Of It All

BY: Foreman Heard

I am desperate. Something must be done. I'll try anything. It's Monday, October 8, 1984. Four days from now I will be in Fontana Village, North Carolina competing in the Universal Clogging Championship. One of our team members found out a few weeks ago that he couldn't go. Therefore instead of dancing one, maybe two routines, I have to dance them all. Last Friday I pulled a muscle in my back, or it could be a pinched nerve, or an arthritis flare-up. I don't know what it is, all I know is that I am in pain.

This is a doctors office. I have always been a little wary of a doctor's office where the examination table is made of 2 x 4's and vinyl covered plywood. I have seen no less than five people wearing white coats. They all have on a tag that appears to say "Dr.". (You could have fooled me). I have answered the same series of medical history questions five times. Each "Dr." checks off the appropriate yes or no on a different colored piece of paper. (I wonder if I will get five bills?)

The walls in this place are paper thin. Sitting in the examining room, I can hear portions of the discussion between patient and doctor in the next room. There is a communication problem because of a Spanish accent. The door on Exam Room # 1 opens and closes. I hear fumbling with papers outside of Exam Room # 2 (my room). The door opens and in walks Doctor Manuello Manteo. My mind immediately flashes to some Caribbean island printing shop where persons are writing out checks and receiving a Medical School Diploma in return. He asks me questions and gets frustrated each time I fail to understand his accent. He prescribes a pain pill. Hurray!! I leave Exam Room # 2 and go to X-Ray # 1.

Again paper thin walls. I hear the technician talking to the medical assistant. The developing machine is broken, but they will take the X-Rays anyway and see how they turn out. I have a hospital gown to wear. Just for fun, I put it on backwards with the opening in the front. The technician is not amused. Six X-Rays and fifteen minutes later, she tells me that the film did not develop properly, something to do with the processor. (I already knew that!)

I am desperate. That is why I am lying on a table with electrodes or something attached to my back. I am in "Therapy". This office is called a "Pain Control Clinic". A little more control, please!! It ain't working. After ten minutes of electrical charges shooting through

my back, the medical assistant tells me to get up. As I carefully slide off the table a shooting pain stabs through my back and I let out a scream. The medical assistant asks if I feel any better? I give her a dumb look. Then comes the psychology, "you will get better, I promise". (This girl was a high school cheerleader last year, now she's a medical expert.)

Tuesday. I'm back at the clinic. Today I look at my X-Rays. There is definitely a twist in my spine. The doctor says it can be corrected with "regular treatment". I am to come in for therapy, adjustments, and alignments. He wants to know if I understand the insurance releases I signed yesterday. (They send the insurance company a bill, the company pays 80%, I pay the remainder in increments of \$1.00 per month. Sounds like an insurance rip-off to me. I say yes.

Back in therapy. A machine is rolling up and down my spine. It feels like a Lazy Boy rocker with a built in massage, only harder. Next the medical assistant is running something called "Ultrasound" over my hip. Lying face down I see a pair of black shoes (unpolished) near my head. A voice identifies the owner of the shoes as Dr. Windor. I can't see his face, but there is no accent. He wants to know how the "treatment" feels. I say unusual. He assures me that it takes time. (I don't have any time.)

Next the doctor climbs on the table with me and twists my back forty ways from Sunday. Then he pops my neck twice and tries to snatch my head off my body. I've just been adjusted. I'm glad I took that pain pill this morning.

The doctor assures me that my back will get better in time. I already knew that. The cheerleader told me yesterday. Besides it always gets better after a few weeks. I don't want it better next week. I want it better now. I'm dreading that twelve hour drive to Fontana.

Friday - October 12. The drive wasn't too bad. I am sufficiently rested. I've taken a pill for "inflammation" and two extra strength Tylenol every six hours. The pain is minimal. There is something about a gathering of cloggers that makes you forget everything except the enjoyment of the dance. For the next two days I seldom sit down, but I feel no pain. The excitement of competition, the friends, the fun are enough to cure anyone of anything.

Monday - October 15, 1984 - 8:00 AM. I got home four hours ago and now I'm back on that Roly-Poly table. The doctor just adjusted my neck. The cheerleader asks how I feel. I say fine. "See", she says in her expert manner, "I told you it would get better." I half smile and then drift off for a few minutes sleep before going to work. My desperation has subsided.



# WHAT IF NOBODY COMES ???

BY: Bobbie Adams

Have you ever decided to have a big party? You work over your dates, guest list and invitations with excitement. Depending on the reason and season, your menu or food and drink are tentatively planned. Just as Heloise (Hints from. . .) proposed, the house gets cleaned, silver polished, marketing and food preparation done; finally you shower and slip into the appropriate dress and then. . . .

## . . . What If Nobody Comes?

Ten to one, the only people who **DON'T** experience this last minute panic are Paul Newman or **The White House!**

Those brave souls who have planned and executed a "Convention" for Cloggers know all about the "Agony & Ecstasy" part. Tempers fray or snap altogether, the costs spiral upward, Hall Managers who were so agreeable before the contract was signed strangely become surly, unavailable or uncooperative, Committee Chairmen scamp out of doing their jobs, ribbons or programs are misprinted, Instructors fail to send their routines, or send them in unreadable condition. The Directors of any Convention must have the same Flexibility as a fall-down comic — "keep 'em smiling at all costs"!! There are prima donna's, scared First Timers, gate crashers, and no shows. One Director wears a big button that says, "Don't Panic!" That about tells it all!

THE day arrives — the 73rd person through the door makes you breathe easier — now you can repay Uncle Fred the loan. The floor is slick or uneven, and the people fall, the dust begins to rise and you wish you'd rented gas masks, the Ladies room toilet backs up and the Building Manager is visiting his sister in Poughkeepsie for the weekend, and we've heard of not one but two Conventions where the Electrical Power shut down for several horrible hours! Improvise! Braille a capella?

Complaints are lodged that the Committees are surly — could it be because they were up all the previous night folding, spindling and mutilating syllabusi, or painting palm trees on their best bed sheets? or rolling finger sandwiches? Naaaaaaw!!!!!!

We wind to the end of our **BIG** Day. Feet hurt, aspirin are all gone, this bubble of hysterical laughter is building in the gut; the die hards meet wearily for breakfast at 3 AM and the all night manager of the chosen all night joint is downright mad that these nutty people in strange clothes chose his place and disturbed his nap.

And then the Post Convention Let Down!!! 'Bout like Post Partum Blues! You've launched a ship and it didn't sink! And suddenly the smug cat-that-drank-the-cream look comes over face after face. We **DID** it!. . . and **NEXT** year we'll rent the Astrodome. . . and make it a 5 day Convention. . . with a 702 page Syllabus. . . .





# BUCK DANCE INSTRUCTION

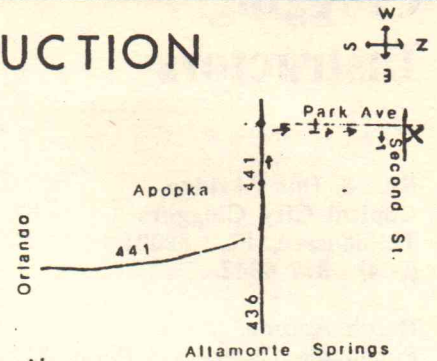
Friday Nights from 7:30 to 8:30  
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For More Information Contact - After 5:00 p.m. Please

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See Instructors Ads  
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Orlando, FL 32807  
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Winter Park, FL 32792  
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The Clogging Machine  
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Oh, Great Spirit, help  
me always to speak the  
truth quietly, to listen  
with an open mind when  
others speak, and to  
remember the peace that  
may be found in silence.

Cherokee Prayer



# Club Directory

The Clogging Machine  
Mahaffey Community Center  
Park Avenue & East Second Street  
Apopka, FL  
Fri. 7:30-10:00 PM - OPEN  
K. Lyons, John & Alice PerMar

Country Cloggers - Performance  
I.A.M. Hall  
Garden Street, Pensacola, FL  
Sun. 12:00-3:00 PM  
David Spencer

Cracker Country Cloggers  
New Smyrna Beach Senior High School  
School Cafeteria - Mondays  
S.N.P.J. Lodge, Samsula Road  
Samsula, FL - Tuesdays  
Both: B - 7:00-8:30 PM  
CLUB - 8:30-10:00 PM  
Becky Pope

Freedom & Village Cloggers - Perf  
1604 Hickory Drive  
Maitland, FL 32751  
Cheryl Baker

Good Time Cloggers  
Limona Improvement Assn. Bldg.  
608 Limona Rd., Brandon, FL  
Mon. Exhib. Team 6:00-9:00 PM  
Wed. & Thur. B - 6:30-7:30 PM  
I - 7:30-8:00 PM

Sally Root

Hoe-Down Cloggers  
N. Ft. Myers Fire Department  
Willis Drive, Ft. Myers, FL  
Wed. B - 7:00-8:30 PM  
I - 8:30-10:00 PM OPEN  
Julie Brooks & Mark McMorris

Minuteman Cloggers of Longwood  
Longwood Elementary School  
Orange Avenue, Longwood, FL  
Wed. B - 2:45-3:45 PM (Club)  
Lindy Reyes & Cindy Owens

Orlando Cloggers  
Loch Haven Neighborhood Center  
610 N. Lake Formosa Drive, Orlando, FL  
Tue. B - 7:00-8:30 PM  
I - 8:30-10:00 PM  
Thur. A - 7:00-9:00 PM OPEN  
Angela Connor & Joanne Rusnak

Pacesetter Cloggers  
Central Florida Square Dance Center  
S.R. 434, Longwood, FL  
Thur. B - 7:00-8:00 PM  
I & A - 8:00-10:00 PM  
Jacky Egli

Palm Bay Cloggers  
Palm Bay Recreation Center  
Port Malabar, FL  
Tue. 6:30-9:00 PM  
Thur. 6:30-9:00 PM  
Hoover School, Indialantic, FL  
Wed. 6:30-9:00 PM OPEN  
Madeleine Dolce - (305) 729-1486

Panhandle Cloggers  
Pace Elementary School, Pace, FL  
Mon. B - 7:00-9:00 PM  
Tue. I - 7:00-9:00 PM  
Thur. I & A - 7:00-9:00 PM (CLUB)  
Butch Antone

Pony Express Cloggers  
Orange Gardens Club House  
Kissimmee, FL  
Tue. B - 6:00-7:30 PM  
I & A - 7:30-9:00 PM  
Jan Hughes

Rocky Water Cloggers  
Melbourne, FL  
Tue. B & I - 5:30-7:00 PM  
A - 7:00-9:00 PM OPEN  
Ray Grimm

Shufflin' Shoes Family Cloggers  
Performance  
5860 Bamboo Dr., Orlando, FL 32807  
Barbara Whipple - (305) 282-1353

Southern Night Cloggers  
(For Handicapped Individuals)  
Langford Center  
1808 E. Central Blvd., Orlando, FL  
Tue. B - 7:00-8:00 PM  
I - 5:30-7:00 PM  
Orlando Bureau of Recreation  
S. Egan - (305) 849-2288 or  
C. Kichukoff - (305) 788-3918

Sunshine Cloggers of Maitland, FL  
Maitland Civic Center, Maitland, FL  
Wed. B - 7:00-8:30 PM  
I-1 - 8:30-10:00 PM  
Thur. I-2 7:30-8:30 PM  
A 8:30-9:30 PM  
Sue & Tom Toor

Sunshine Cloggers of Pensacola, FL  
Grotto Hall, South "K" Street  
Pensacola, FL  
Sun. B - 4:00-6:00 PM  
Club - 6:00-8:00 PM  
David Spencer

Tohopekaliga Cloggers  
Jeffries Elementary School  
Hwy. 192 & Vermont Avenue  
St. Cloud, FL  
Mon. Club - 8:00-9:30 PM OPEN  
Jean Gaskins - (305) 892-6240



Callahanism

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is on the handle,  
Don't let anyone  
else tell you how  
to hoe the row.



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