

THE DOUBLE TOE TIMES

Vol. 4, No. 1

A Clogging Newsletter

January 1986

JoAnn Gibbs CLOG National Convention



Louisville - Thanksgiving 1985

Even though she didn't have an electric golf cart this year, she seemed to be everywhere at once. The Commonwealth Convention Center, Louisville, Kentucky, scene of the 1985 CLOG National Convention, was a beehive of activity and JoAnn was usually right in the middle. At one point she was chatting with a group of Editors and State Representatives on the mezzanine level, and wearily put her head on husband Russell's shoulder and declared, "I'm sooo tired" - whereupon off she'd go again like a whirling dervish! The Parade of States and Laser Light Show and the outstanding Clogging performance by three groups of Cloggers was a once-in-a-lifetime show, and though it was the last night of the Convention, JoAnn seemed full of energy. Chris Rawls (with a little help from his friends) presented JoAnn with possibly the biggest

Continued on Page 8

BEGINNERS AND VISITORS . . . WELCOME

BY: Buzzy Ireland, Director
Orange Blossom Specials

After beginner and intermediate class are over the majority of students disappear and you wonder where you went wrong. They should be enjoying this as much as you are! Recently I have tried to

look back and see what myself and others might have done to help keep more of these people involved in the world of clogging.

The following are some things that I feel are important at the class level. Some of these I already do and some I will try to put more emphasis on in the future in order to make new people feel more like "part of the group".

1. EVERYONE needs to be friendly and courteous to class members and visitors.

Continued on Page 14

THE DOUBLE TOE TIMES

PUBLISHER/EDITOR

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:

THE DOUBLE TOE TIMES

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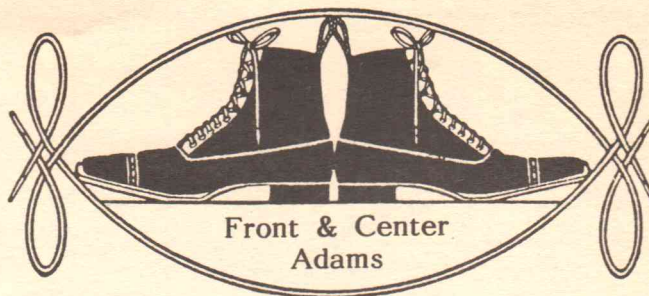
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Bobbie Adams....305/834-8255

AD RATES

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January 1986! We have something exciting cookin' for July 1986! The Double Toe Times is sponsoring a Competition Workshop - July 18, 19 and 20, 1986 to be held at The River Ranch Resort, Lake Wales, Florida. (Near Yeehaw Junction!) Instructors, and Dancers, who wish to know more about Competition are invited. More details in the February Issue. The Instructors for this Workshop SO FAR are (alphabetically): Foreman Heard, Buckin' Mule, Fl., Buzzy Ireland, Orange Blossom Specials, Fl., Bob Johnson, Flatland Cloggers, Va., Barb Kohler, Gold Coast Cloggers, Fl., and John PerMar, Clogging Machine, Fl. (JAG - maybe!) There will be a limited number of teams accepted for critiquing purposes. If your group has a routine which you are unsure about with regard to competition guidelines, here's your chance! We'd like to add a Judges Clinic, with the hope of training some home-grown NCHC Judges! Drop us a note if you are interested.

Seems like December was the month your Editor got a bunch of tongue-lashings! Some justified, some not. To the person who complained that the DTT continually featured "certain" groups; well, we went back and critically examined all of '85's issues. Certain groups submit more material 'tis true. Others won more honors, or did outstanding things more often. We also examined our Complimentary Ad list, and our long distance phone bills. In an effort to get more news from a wider area, we certainly enriched Ma Bell (or is it AT&T?). Our deadlines, published on Page 2, state that news must be in our hands the 10th of the month preceding the next issue - if we receive material too late for an issue, sometimes the material becomes too old to print.

To the person who said we look for Achilles Heels - TRUE! Strangely enough lots of folks like a little pepper on their potatoes. Lots of areas need a gentle poke now and then. Teddy Roosevelt said that it was the duty of the Press to ask for an accounting. We do not presume to be a Washington Post/Watergate catalyst, but now and then we calls 'em like we sees 'em. In all honesty, it is hard to expose your thoughts, personality and soul on paper. My Sincere THANKS to S & T, J, FH and JAG who regularly pick me up, dust me off and send me back into the ring.

To all the Clogging Editors: I've just been given a reprieve! The Flop Eared Mule deadline has been extended. You WILL receive a mailer list, and report on our meeting, just as soon as I finish my Christmas shopping! Reed and Kay Davis, and Chris Haas - Thanks for your patience.

Scotty Bilz has been down with flu and a cold, thus there will be no Buck Dancin' column this month. How about all you readers sending a Get Well card? Scott Bilz, 117 Jay Drive, Altamonte Springs, Fl. 32714. We still have not had Elvira's response to Jaaney's predicament. We are sad that Lindy is no longer full/spare time with the DTT, but she does pop in now and then and seems to arrive just when we need her most. Cindy Swarthout has saved this Editors life and sanity! Thank You Cindy.

Upcoming Events

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>Jan. 31, Feb. 1&2 Southern States Clogging Competition
Kissimmee, Fl
JoAnn Gibbs, Director
3452 Summitt Ridge Dr.
Doraville, Ga. 30340
(404) 934-1691
Sponsored by: The Buckin' Mule Team</p> <p>Feb. 7 & 8 Bearfoot Cloggers Jamboree
Daytona Beach, Fl.
Beverly Dionne, Director
(904) 428-5333</p> <p>Feb. 14 & 28 Goodtime Cloggers Dances
Riverview, Fl.
Sally Root, Director
Rt. 3, Box 519
Valrico, Fl 33594
(813) 689-7271</p> <p>Feb. 21, 22 CSRA Clogging Festival
Augusta, Ga.
Contact: Peggy Gasque
4409 Ga. Hereford Farm Road
Evans, Ga. 30809
(404) 863-9074</p> <p>Mar. 14,18 Goodtime Cloggers Dances
(Same as Feb. 14 & 18)</p> <p>Mar. 21,22 Springtime Tallahassee Festival
Tallahassee, Fl.
Contact: Gaynelle Mullis
Rt. 15, Box 750
Tallahassee, Fl. 32301
(904) 878-8837</p> <p>Mar. 21,22 South Carolina Clogging Stampede
North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina
Contact: Shirley Heyward
P.O. Box 198
N. Myrtle Beach, SC 29597
(803) 249-3235</p> | <p>Mar. 22 Louisville (LACA) Spring Workshop
With Steve Smith, Kentucky
Contact: Cliff & Patricia Breehl
4007 Peachtree Ave.
Louisville, Ky. 40215
(502) 363-4336</p> <p>Mar. 27, 28 & 29 Possum Holler Clogging Workshop
Fontana Village, N. C.
JoAnn Gibbs, Director
3452 Summitridge Dr.
Doraville, Ga. 30340
(404) 934-1691</p> <p>April 11-13 Derby City Spring Festival
Louisville, Kentucky
Contact: Cliff and Patricia Breehl
(See Mar. 22 - LACA)</p> <p>April 25,26 Sunshine Cloggers Pirates Ball
Orlando, Fl.
Contact: Sue and Tom Toor
P.O. Box 563
Longwood, Fl. 32750
(305) 695-6437 or 834-8255</p> <p>May 2,3 CAW - Wisconsin - Jamboree '86
Holiday Inn SE, Madison, Wisconsin
Contact: Linda Weeks
1224 Jenifer #3,
Madison, Wi. 53703
(608) 251-6169 eve. or 845-6127 days</p> <p>May 23,24 FCC State Clogging Convention
Curtis Hixon Center, Tampa, Fl.
Contact: Bill Fuller
2512 Pecan Rd.
Tallahassee, Fl. 32303
(904) 385-8460</p> <p>June 28- July 4 11th Annual Nat'l. Cloggers Festival
Provo, Utah
Contact: Cloggers Festival
P.O. Box 903
Orem, Ut. 84057</p> |
|--|--|

State and Regional Associations Meeting: November 29, 1985 Chris Haas, Wisconsin, Chairman

A well attended meeting with representatives from almost all the Associations, including Chairmen of some of the Clogging Programs for National Square Dance Conventions. We hope to have a report from Chris Haas in the near future.



COMPETITIVELY SPEAKING

By Steve Smith

281 Boiling Springs Dr.
Lexington, Ky. 40505

GIVE THE JUDGES A BREAK!

Competition season is upon us and I thought it would be appropriate to talk this month about the much maligned but essential role that judges play in a competition. It's tough being a judge! With the abundance of clogging talent on the floor these days, a judge's job is anything but easy.

First of all, judges are required to use score sheets provided for the particular competition. They can vary in the format, and are often cumbersome and difficult to use. Secondly, you know that in the final analysis more people will disagree with the judges' decisions than will agree with them. This is especially true in a competition where there are lots of quality performances. Thirdly, it takes a lot of time and effort to endure a competition. There is pressure to give constant attention to the dancers and to be observant at all times.

Before you lambast the judges at your next competition, I suggest you consider some of the following thoughts.



You must remember that each judge is human and that judging clogging competitions is basically a subjective process. It's easy to take off points for chewing gum, looking at the feet, poor balance, etc., but in the nitty-gritty of high-level competition, judging is VERY subjective. Therefore, the judge's own style of clogging, geographical history, visual vs. rhythmical preferences, emphasis on showmanship vs. technique, and sentimental preferences will all have an effect upon final selections.

In nearly all cases, judges are acting out of sincerity when they make the choices they do. There are many different styles of clogging, and when they choose the one that they think deserves first place they are doing so from their perspective ON THIS ONE DAY. On a different day their choices might be different. If you keep those thoughts in mind when you disagree with the judge, then you will be less disappointed and will be able to acknowledge that you and the judge merely have different ideas about how clogging is best judged.

If you want to feel cheated and escalate tensions at the competition, then you can accuse the judge of having favorites, being paid off, disliking you, or any of a number of childish ploys. If this is your style when losing, then you are putting too much of your own sense of self-worth into the hands of someone else. You are giving them the power to affect your happiness, and that is competition taken to the extreme.

Dancing is fun, so please...keep it in perspective!

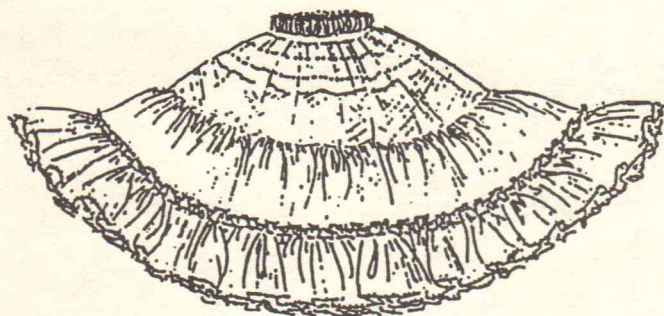
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Toronto in November - Brrrr!

By Sue and Tom Toor
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We left Orlando International Airport, the weather in sunny Florida still 85°. Our destination: Toronto, Canada with 40° weather, rain and, we hoped, some snow forecast. Our whirlwind weekend would give us opportunities to sightsee and visit Cloggers too!

Saturday we explored the downtown Toronto area: Hildegard's pastry-soup-bagel-Shoppe, and Eaton Shopping Center, four stories of shopping levels, two city blocks long. (Below it the Subway, above three levels of parking!) The City was decked out for the Christmas season and even had a Santa Parade that weekend.

After a day of shopping and touring, we decided to look for a Country Dance Hall. Toronto, with its millions of radio listeners, has only one Country Music radio station. We called them for information and were given the name of one dance hall. Donning boots and country attire (and toting our tap shoes) off we went to two-step and swing. We found a semi-country restaurant, with a crowd of semi-country folks, and a band that played a little of everything, but very little country.

On Sunday we phoned some Cloggers to check on their schedule. Sylvia Hunka was recuperating from a Family Wedding, but assured us there would be Clogging classes that week. Off we went at 100 km per hour to see Niagra Falls. Cold, beautiful, truly a sight! That evening we went to Honest Ed's a mall filled with restaurants - almost any cuisine you'd care to name was represented by its own restaurant. Fabulous food!

Monday I returned to Florida to warm up, and Tom had the opportunity to Clog with Joan Smith's Beginner Class. They shared stepwork, and Tom learned some new routines. Traditionally, Florida Cloggers go out for pizza after Class. Toronto Cloggers head for a local donut and coffee shop. There are donut shops on every corner in Toronto, so you can't possibly miss out!

Tuesday evening the area clubs all unite to dance under the direction of Sylvia Hunka. Tom demonstrated some of the latest buck dance steps, and in turn requested that someone show him the Canadian Step Dancing. Tom found a resemblance in buck dancing and step dancing, however was told that one must curl their toes under for the right effect. Great fun to watch!

Wednesday night, Angela Cameron and her beginners class welcomed Tom and put him to work. He learned a great deal from them through the evening, and they seemed to enjoy a few routines he taught. They ended the evening at MacDonald's talking until quite late. Angela and her Cloggers presented Tom with a lovely key chain with the Canadian leaf emblem, and later a small pin was sent from Sylvia Hunka. Both gifts meant a lot to Tom, since new friends have been made in our widening Clogging Family.



Sylvia Hunka, Toronto, Canada



ELVIRA
ONE OF A KIND

Dear Elvira: Are you rich? Terry

Dear Terry: I've got money I haven't even printed yet. Elvira

Dear Elvira: My boyfriend refuses to admit his faults. Don't you think he should. Evelyn

Dear Evelyn: Yes. I know we women would admit our faults if we had any. Elvira

Dear Elvira: Last night my husband left and took all my girdles with him. What should I do? Grace

Dear Grace: Sue him for non support. Elvira

Dear Elvira: What will men's fashions be like in the coming months? Ed

Dear Ed: There will be little change in men's clothing, especially in the pockets. Elvira

Dear Elvira: Did you know that Michael Jackson does a concert every three or four months and earns a million dollars? Sissy

Dear Sissy: It's a shame a talented young man like that can't find steady employment. Elvira

Dear Elvira: My boyfriend said he loves me more than anyone else in the world. Should I believe him? Angel

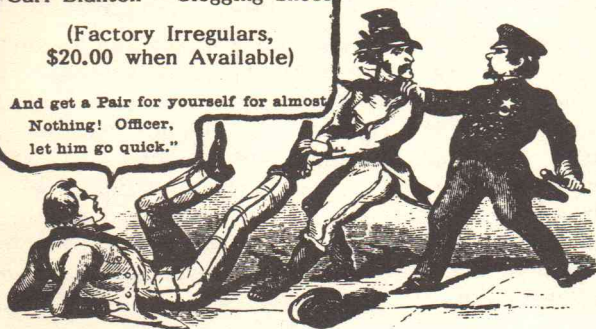
Dear Angel: Sounds like to me, he's been experimenting. Elvira

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A QUEEN SIZE EXPERIENCE

By: Foreman Heard

When I had my "back trouble" last fall, a doctor suggested that I get a new mattress with firm support. I have just gotten around to it.

Three weeks ago a local (10 miles away) department store was having a bedding sale with a few Sealy Posturpedic mattresses for a very reasonable price. I got there early, Saturday, 8:30 AM. The sale didn't start until 9:00, so I stood in line and was one of the "lucky" eight who got the special price. (I love a bargain). They threw in a frame for \$15. The salesman said they would deliver that afternoon after 12:30. Now that's what I call service.

My problems began at the cash register. It seems that I had not used that particular store's credit card in three years and my account had been "deactivated". A small delay while they checked to see if I was using a stolen credit card. "No problem!", said the clerk, "your bed will be delivered this afternoon". Hot doggies!!! I can't wait!!!

The bed I bought was a queen size. I suddenly realized that I had no queen size sheets, so I ran into another store in the Mall (I wasn't pressing my luck with that deactivated credit card) and bought some sheets, ran back to the car, and went zooming home to prepare for the new arrival. I took down the old bed and hauled everything to the storage room in the garage. By 12:30, all was ready.

4:15 PM. The bed had not arrived, so I called the special delivery number in the phone book. A recording, "...delivery hours on Saturday are between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM. ...". I called the store. They said sometimes deliveries run late.

7:30. Still no bed. I called the store. The person in charge told me that the salesman had made an error, there are no deliveries to Sanford on Saturday, only local deliveries. (10 miles and in the same county is not local?). "It will probably be next week sometime," she added.

I started kicking things, hurt my toe, and stopped. I was really mad. Luckily there is more than one bed in my house so I didn't have to sleep on the floor. (I didn't tell the store that.)

Monday. I called delivery. They are not open on Monday. I called the store manager. His secretary said she would make some inquiries and call me back.

Tuesday. The secretary hadn't called me, so I called her. "The Sanford delivery day is Friday, would that be convenient?", she asked. I was going to be out of town on Friday so she suggested the next Friday. Delivery has jumped from six hours to two weeks, but I suppose I have no choice.

Delivery Day. My house is 90 years old and has two stories! I suppose the builders never anticipated the advent of queen sized beds, and therefore did not build corners and stairways accordingly. My bed arrived at 10:00 AM and would not go up the stairs. (I thought about kicking things again, but remembered my toe). I measured the bed, 60 inches wide. I

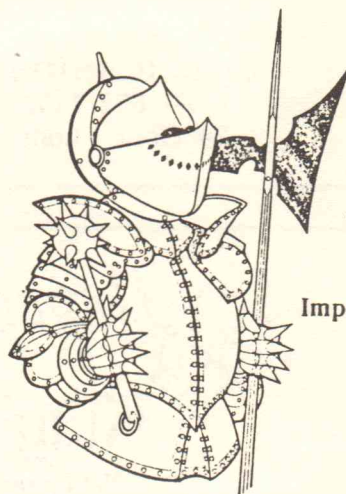
measured the upstairs window, 61 inches. I got a hammer, and removed the window. One delivery man stood in the window while the other climbed up a ladder with the bed on his back. It slipped through the window.

New problem. The adjustable bed frame would not fit together! "We'll bring you another one next Friday," the delivery man said.

It has been three weeks. The window is back in, the frame is set up, the bed is made, and the bill has arrived. No waiting for that. I paid the bill in full!

I'm still mad. Know what I'm going to do? I'm going to write a letter to the store manager, with copies to the division manager in Miami, and the Chairman of the Board in Cincinnati. Know what else? I'm going to cut up my deactivated credit card and send each one a piece. Know what else? I've already done that and so far I've heard nothing. No one has made any effort to apologize for my inconvenience, and considering the runaround I got on the delivery, I'm not surprised.

Know what else I'm going to do. I'm going to go upstairs, lie down on my new bed, and take a nap.



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CLOG (Continued from Page 1)

Bra in the world, and explained the ongoing war of one-upmanship started by JoAnn herself - is it time to holler Uncle? The Instructors spoofed us all by mimicking some other Instructor when that name was called. Amazing how each has a style or mannerism so easily copied. Then Jeff Driggs' magnificent voice singing "God Bless the U.S.A" The last nights dance with laser-noodles, and then the After-Party and it was all over for 1985.

Late this afternoon, we received in the mail, a letter about the Convention from Geneva Spivey, a Clogging Instructor from Bunnell, Florida. We are unable to print the whole letter, since tomorrow is the day we go to press, but Geneva's superlatives are felt by all of us. "... exhausted but the Convention still fresh in our minds, we wish to thank the folks from Kentucky for their warm hospitality. Everyone (who worked on the Convention) is to be commended. Our many thanks to JoAnn and her staff for a job well done!" Thank you Geneva, we couldn't have said it better ourselves.



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March 14 & 28, 1986

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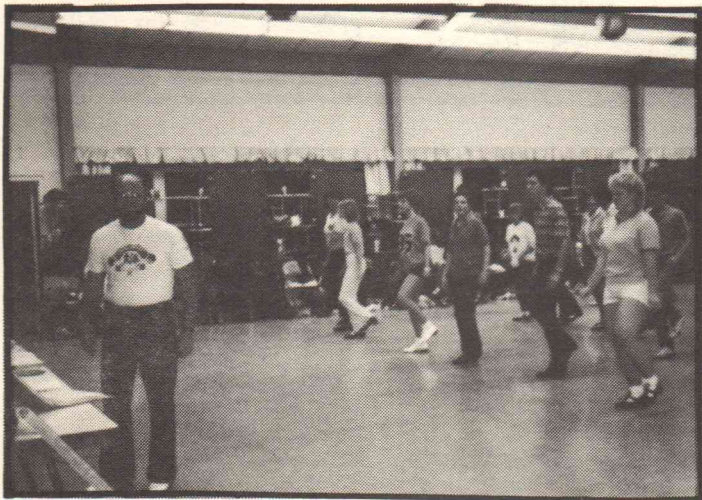
By Steve Olson
Sunshine Cloggers
Orlando, Florida

Jane and I were in Phoenix, Arizona visiting family for the Thanksgiving Holiday. While there, we clogged with Clubs headed by Dave and Ellen Roe. Their Clubs are very similar to ours and they made us feel right at home.

We attended a workshop in Mesa, Saturday the 23rd of November, and Dave taught an excellent mixer to "Back Up and Push". Tuesday, the 26th, we went to Alta Vista School where Dave and Ellen have their Club night. It took Dave about five minutes to review "Dangerous".

We were told that fourteen individuals were leaving at midnight on a cross country expedition in a recreational vehicle, bound for Louisville, Ky. and the CLOG National Convention. If the Phoenix fourteen were not close friends when they left, they surely would be when they returned! Evidently they found their way back to Phoenix, since we have not heard any news about a MISSING Clogging Expedition.

Anyone going to Phoenix should take their dancing shoes and take advantage of the opportunity to Clog with this friendly group of excellent Cloggers!



Dave Roe, Phoenix, Arizona



Cancel the New Year, my shin splints are killing me.
Page 10

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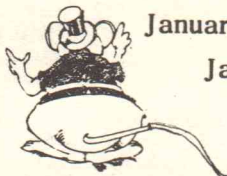
January 13 - Special Guest Instructor
MARGE CALLAHAN

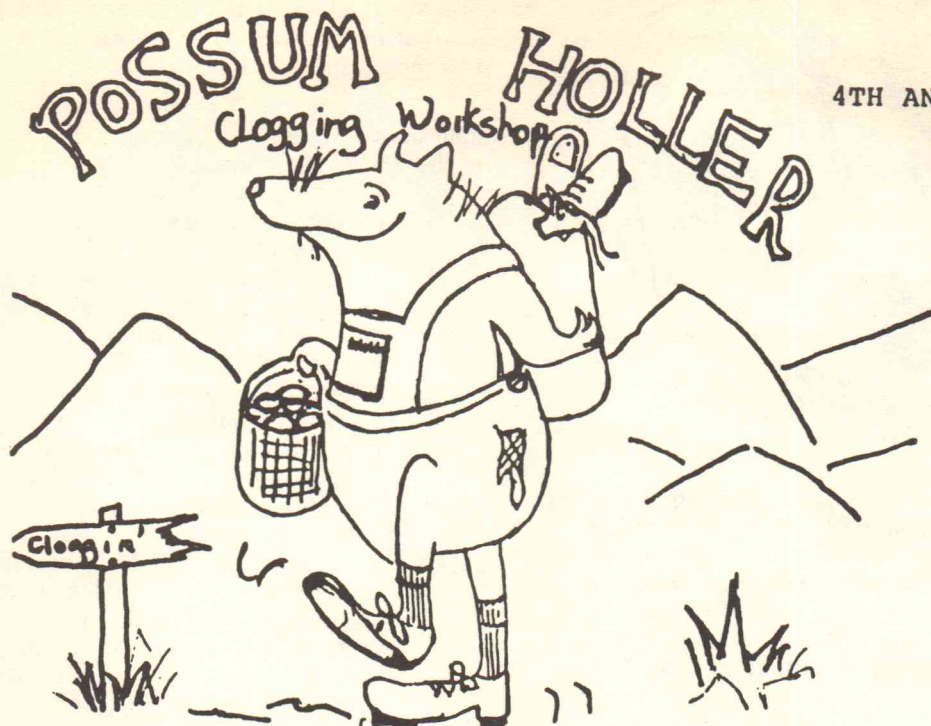
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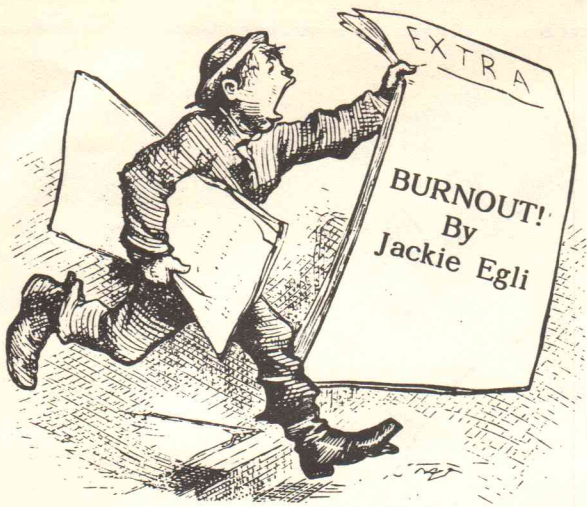
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After coming home exhausted from teaching my Clogging class one evening, I picked up a magazine and proceeded to try to unwind with a cup of cocoa and some reading. As I read through an article on 'the stress of parenting', I found myself saying "this doesn't apply to myself and my eight month old son, this article more appropriately applies to the 'baby' I call Clogging!"

I have as much love for my Clogging Club as any parent does their child - I have watched it grow from the infant stage to its present trying teenage stage - and I know they care, and they know I care. Why, then, were we all feeling the stress and burnout if we all, teacher and student, care for each other? As an Instructor, I feel 'Burned Out'. Burnout is a response to chronic unrelieved stress, and it becomes a never-ending self-perpetuating cycle. You think, as an Instructor, that you aren't doing enough physically, which in turn becomes an emotional stress. You set new mental standards, but perhaps fail to meet your expectations, or the expectations of others, as you see them. You try harder, and become more stressed.

Do you feel trapped in a cycle of teaching, choreographing, running dances, performances, and chairing meetings? Do you find yourself jumping down some poor beginners throat because they asked you where the bathroom is? Do you start out full of energy at the beginning of a session, and in three weeks find yourself looking forward to the end of the 12 week classes, already exhausted and depressed? Do you hold yourself responsible for things you really don't have control of?

Experts have studied the 'burnout' ratio among professional Nurses, Doctors, Psychologists and Teachers. They classify these as the 'helping' professions, and feel that because they care so much about others, they have a tendency to put their patient or student needs or desires before their own. After a period of time they feel as though they have lost their own identity.

Like a parent, a clogging Instructor can sometimes put themselves into a position where they are 'on call' 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You may not get much monetary reward for what you do, and there certainly aren't any promotions!

The article in *Womans Day* (Dec. '85) states "Burnout is caused and cured by attitudes and be-

haviors over which you have control. You can maintain the balance between energy and demands by eliminating unproductive emotional drains and adding self replenishing activities."

They added some suggestions which can be adapted to Clogging Clubs and Teams and Instructors in the following ways:

- 1) Set goals that are realistic - for your Club, for yourself.
- 2) Be able to allow those goals to change as your Club or Team grows and changes. If you don't meet your goals, you will be angry at yourself and your Club. To keep those same goals will only keep you angry.
- 3) Recognize that your dancers are often trying to put their 'needs' on your list! Stop and think -- who is really in charge of that list? Who sets up the criteria for which you judge yourself?
- 4) Structure your clogging schedule to include some time off; time for yourself, to learn something new, and replenish your energy. Attend a Convention without the group! Try it! Go to an out-of-State workshop where no one puts demands on you - learn what you enjoy, not what you think the class will like.
- 5) Resist the temptation to quit or withdraw. Call another Instructor and talk about your feelings, talk to several Instructors! They are most likely feeling the way you do. Support is a good way to combat depression!

Editors Note: We have heard talk of Instructor or Dancer BURNOUT from every area of the country. Clogging is an avocation or hobby, designed to relieve tension from our workaday world. It basically boils down to "hearing a catchy tune which makes your feet start wiggling". We go to the Clogging halls to learn, and to be with other wiggly feet! We've often heard "I had such fun at Clogging! I didn't even THINK about my other problems!" When it ceases to be fun, burnout is imminent.

Here are a couple of ideas on how to revitalize the Instructor AND the Club.

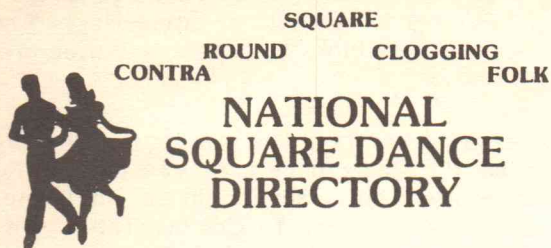
Ask the Instructor to not schedule anything one or two Class nights in the session. Get your heads together and have an "Instructor Roast" or "King or Queen for a Night" or "Instructor Appreciation Night", anything that will let the Instructor know you care. Try a covered dish supper, or a Class-run evening. Everyone will enjoy the change! If your Club has successfully tried other ideas, send them in, and we'll share with our readers.

Oh Great Editor in the Sky . . .

Grant me clairvoyance and insightful perspicaciousness to deduce that which, under penalty of law, should not be printed.

Give me inordinant wisdom, nay twice that of Solomon, to know the difference between libelous and non-libelous, infringement and freebie, and (horrors) to rise above tackiness.

(The name of a good Attorney would also be nice.)



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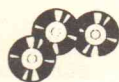


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THE FICKLE FINGER OF FATE



Whooooee! How did it get to be January so soon? Old Fickle does NOT like December. All that Ho Ho Ho stuff is too much, and then the Editor DEMANDED a column.

Reed Davis, of Arizona Follow the Sun, introduced Adams to someone at the Convention and prefaced the introduction with "... and contrary to what you have heard, her first name is NOT 'damn!'" Haw, haw, haw!

The Editor should hire a look-alike for public appearances! Don't know about Chris Haas, but

Adams is never fully awake till 10 AM. To even TALK at 7:30 AM must have been interesting. And forgetful too - Fickle thinks her days as Editor are numbered.

Why is it all Secretary-types are neat, and Editor-types are sloppy? Fickle likes our newest Staff member Cindy Swarthout. She would be our Comptroller if there was anything to Comp. Talk about a neatnik - she makes the Editors desk look like a major metropolitan land-fill. Fickle's corner in the laundry room is neat too, but not by choice. The Editor is a snoop. She also ate all of Fickle's cinnamon jelly beans. Fickle keeps all his stuff in his fishing tackle box with a plastic-worm on top. That'll fix her!

The Editor told Fickle he'd have to help with the mailings from now on. Fickle would like all of his loyal readers join a picket line in front of the office on March 22! (Well everyone else is having something March 22, why can't Fickle?)

Welcome (Continued from Page 1)

Ninety-nine percent of the people who take clogging lessons are really nice people. Get to know them — you might just make some real good friends. I'm so fond of one of my former students and now dedicated team member that I'm going to marry her in April! You never know what a smile or kind word might lead to.

2. Team and club members need to mix with the class and be "good" examples for them to watch and learn from. As you know it is often very difficult to see the instructor's feet. However - do the steps or routine as it is being taught so as not to confuse those who are trying to learn.
3. Don't hesitate to help people who are having problems. The instructor seldom has time to give individual attention during class. A few minutes can often help someone past a problem area and give them the confidence they need.
4. I think it is a good idea to let the club members show some routines the first and second lessons but after that let the class utilize the break periods to seek help on what might have just confused them or just plain visit. This is their time, they paid for it.
5. Whether you are the instructor or a dancer give encouragement to class members. This often means a lot coming from an experienced dancer. Share your talent with others. There are numerous cloggers around the country that I think a lot of because they took the time to encourage me and help me and my team improve.
6. Do not let anyone spend time downgrading other instructors or teams.

This can turn people off in a hurry.

They came to learn to clog or visit — not to get involved in rivalries. If you believe you are on the best team around or you're the best instructor available prove it by your actions.

7. If you are an instructor always remember how confusing it was when you took lessons. Double Step - Rock Step didn't come easy. I am still often humbled by a new routine. Move along so as not to bore the majority but watch closely. Sometimes when a lot of club members are assisting me I see and hear a lot of people doing the right thing but when I look closer the class members are totally lost. So I slow down and start over. Frustrated people tend to drop out.
8. If you are an exhibition team member remember that people look up to you. You have achieved something that a lot of class and club members would also like to achieve. It makes a difference to class and club morale when you are on the floor dancing with them and visiting with them. If you spend your time visiting among yourselves and doing only the newest most advanced routines it can really take away the enthusiasm of the group. You are the best ones there! The others learn the finer points from you — not just the instructors. The best cloggers are those who have been able to watch and mingle with the best. Give others the same opportunity.

So now after giving all of this wonderful advice I will try it myself and see if it works. If we give them our best and they still don't continue on with clogging then I guess we must just realize that not everyone gets as bit by the clogging bug as we did. I'm personally glad the sucker bit me!!

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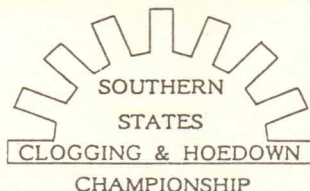
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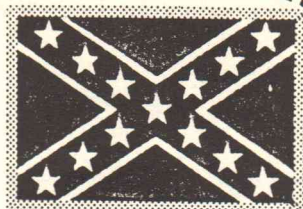
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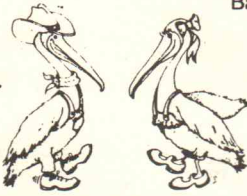
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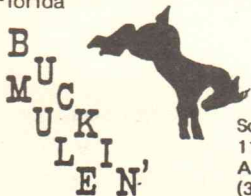


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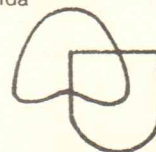
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