S THE S DOUBLE TOE TIMES

Volume 4, No. 5

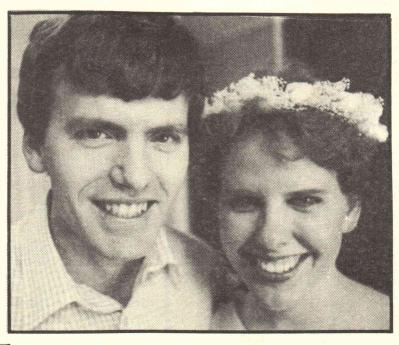
A Clogging Newsletter

May 1986

POSSUM HOLLER WORKSHOP Fontana Village, North Carolina Easter Weekend 1986

Brenda Blackman and Stan Kuchta, Members of The Main Street Cloggers, Detroit, Michigan, were Married in the Chapel at Fontana Village during the Easter weekend Workshop. (Pictured right)

Spring, with its nippy nights and daffodils, paper-whites and forsythia, was just beginning in the Mountains. This was the first gathering of dancers for the season at Fontana Village, and many of the cabins did not have the hot water reconnected. Our hand cabin-mate Phil Bohley, crawled under our abode and rehooked the hot water heater. We oroginally had a choice of two baths, or one and a fireplace. Choosing the latter, (I might have been shot) our mornings were





hectic as we drew straws for showers, but our evenings were warm! Removed from the city lights, the inky night sky was filled with stars, as we wearily walked home from the Lodge - happily all down hill.

The Clog-Down, Mini-Solo Competition, exhibitions, Instructors "Wiggle", and almost frenetic workshops during the days, made the two and one-half days slide by far too quickly. Folks took time out to fish in the trout pond, go on trail rides with the Fontana wrangler (horseback), and drive down to the magnificent awesome Fontana Dam, or perhaps just sit on the front porch of the Lodge in the rocking chairs, watching the youngsters or trying to read the T-Shirts to see where folks were from. There were the usual pranks and very late parties, and a bonfire and Moon Pies. Young John PerMar, pictured left, may well have initiated a new solo category for Competition.

There absolutely were no strangers at this Workshop. People whom I had met in Mobile or Louisville or any of the myriad Competitions, Workshops and Jamborees greeted each other as old friends. And THAT is what it's all about!

THE DOUBLE TOE TIMES

PUBLISHER/EDITOR Bobbie Adams

A Clogging Newsletter

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The Double Toe Times got short shrift this month due to our double deadline - The Pirate's Ball Syllabus and the May DTT. Reed Davis popped in at Fontana Easter weekend (via Philadelphia) and said his intended word for me was <u>irascible</u>: synonyms - choleric, splenetic, testy, touchy, cranky, cross. I think I prefer <u>iridescent</u> though this week he's probably right!

A Big Bird told us that Burton Edwards has been working on some teaching Videotapes! They will be on the market soon - in Beta and VHS. Watch for information in our June or July issue. And speaking of Burton, the Footnoter Benefit Dance in Cincinnati, Barb Shade - Editor, was apparently a tremendous success, in spite of Burton's snow-bound airplane and late arrival! Burton taught here in Florida, several years ago - pure MAGIC. This Editor hopes to get up to The Stompin' Ground in Maggie Valley, North Carolina this summer.

We were delighted to receive a subscription from Japan, and hope that Hideto will share news with us about how they learned about our Appalachian Mountain dancing. The subscription was paid with a new International Postal Money Order, predominately in French, and cost Y3.614. (Yen).

We also have word that Clogging is being introduced in Sweden via an Exchange Student who spent a year in the Central Florida area.

We've spent a chunk of our phone allowance in calls to Chairman Bill Fuller for some information on the Florida Clogging Council's upcoming Convention and have <u>begged</u> for Flyers. ZIP! And speaking of the FCC - may I simply state that the Brochure I promised to do at the March 1985 meeting, has been in the hands of Rex Akridge since September 1985, because he felt his printer could give a better price. (The quote from here was \$106.00 for 1,000 brochures.)

And speaking of Conventions, the word is out that the 3rd Annual National C.L.O.G. Convention will be held in the Hamilton County Trade Center, Chattanooga, Tennessee. Mark your calendar for the two days following Thanksgiving - November 29 & 30, 1986. AND - 1987 will be held in Phoenix, Arizona! 1988 will be in Atlanta, Georgia! No further details as yet, and your Editor promised not to nag J.A.G.

Marti Stevens writes: The Midlantic Clogging Network sponsored a Workshop April 4th and 5th with Tandy Barrett from the Possom Trot Cloggers and John PerMar from the Clogging Machine, leading the teaching team. Other Instructors were: Joan Niemczak, Cherry Hill, NJ, Verlene Tierney, Albany, NY, and Tim Roach, Indian Mills, NJ.

The Workshop was held in Mt. Laurel, NJ about 20 minutes from Philadelphia, and dancers attended from Pennsylvania, New York, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Vermont, Delaware, New Jersey and Maryland. This was the first major workshop in this part of the country and the 170 Cloggers showed that there is a growing interest in our Midlantic region.

We have some great articles coming up in June. Mehl Renner shares his thoughts on Competitions. We've done some extensive research on the History of Fontana Village. And of course, we'll have some great photos of swashbuckling clogging Pirates.



Upcoming Events

May 2 & 3

CAW - Wisconsin - Jamboree '86

Holiday Inn SE, Madison, WI

Contact Linda Weeks, 1224 Jenifer #3,

Madison, WI 53703 (608) 251-6169 eve.

or (608) 845-6127 days

May 3 - 4
Big John's Mountain Stomp - 3rd Annual
Stone Mountain, Georgia. Spectator's
delight! Big John Walters and 42 teams
perform for Park Visitors. Contact
Kathi Hayes, Stone Mountain Park,
GA (404) 469-9831

May 9 - 10
Sunshine Cloggers 7th Jamboree
Pensacola Auditorium, Pensacola, FL.
Contact David Spencer, P.O. Box 8476,
Pensacola, FL 32505 (205) 342-4417 or
(205) 473-0300

May 17
Burton & Becky Edward's
Clogging Workshop The Stompin'
Ground, Maggie Valley, NC
Rt. 1, Box 676, Maggie Valley,
NC 28751 (704) 926-1288

May 16 - 17

"By the Sea" Clogging Festival
North Myrtle Beach, S.C. Contact
Shirley Heyward, P.O. Box 198,
N. Myrtle Beach, SC 29597
(803) 249-3235

May 17
Missouri Clog Council Workshop
"Showcase of Instructors", Eldon
Tri-County Convention Center. Contact
Brenda Martien, P.O. Box 427, Branson,
MO 65616 (417) 334-6263

May 23 - 24
FCC State Clogging Convention
Curtis-Hixon Center, Tampa Florida
Contact Bill Fuller, 2512 Pecan Rd.
Tallahassee, FL 32303
(904) 385-8460

May 30
Fifth Friday Clearwater Clogging
Jamboree Boatyard Village Pavillion
Contact Perry (Clearwater) 541-8783
Lee (Tampa) 933-3433 or Elvi
(St. Pete) 345-0883

May 30 - 31
Arkansas Spring Clogging Festival
University of Little Rock, Little Rock
Arkansas, Contact Dwayne Glanton
7600 Circle "R" Road, North Little
Rock, AR 72118 (501) 753-6245

June 13 - 15
35th Minnesota Square Dance Convention
Clog Program with Charlie Burns, KY.
Rochester, MN Contact Ida Seibel
9315 Union Ter., Maple Grove, MN 55369
(612) 425-2240

June 14 - 15
Cotton Blossom Clogging Festival
Contact Rodney Whitten, Rt #6, Box 276G
Columbia, SC 29210 (803) 732-3465

June 20 - 22
Silver Dollar City Clogging
Extravaganza (Competition) Silver Dollar
City, Missouri Contact Rex Burdette
Silver Dollar City/Marvel Cave Park,
MO 65616 MO (800) 492-7092
All other States (800) 641-4202

June 27 - 28 Summertime Stomp, Punta Gorda, Florida Contact Jan Bohley, 760 Del Ray Place, Punta Gorda, FL 33950 (813) 639-1001

June 26 - 28
35th National Square Dance Convention
Indianapolis, Indiana. Full Clogging
Program. Contact Mike and Carolyn
Kell, 315 W. 4th St., Seymour,
IN 47274 (812) 522-8199

June 28 - July 4
11th Annual Nat'l Cloggers Festival
Provo, Utah Contact Cloggers
Festival, P.O. Box 903, Orem UT 84057

U.S. Clogging Championship Nashville, Indiana Contact Peg McLerran R.R. 2, Box 216, Solsberry, IN 47459 (812) 825-4072

July 18 - 20
Double Toe Times Competition Workshop
River Ranch Resort, Lake Wales, Florida
Contact Bobbie Adams, P.O. Box 1004
Longwood, FL 32750 (305) 834-8255

August 1 - 3
Blue Ridge Mountain Clogging
Competition Georgia Mountains
Center, Gainesville, GA Contact Kerry
Thomas, P.O. Box 56571, Atlanta, GA
(404) 925-3842

August 8 - 10
Central Florida Clogging Celebration
Expo Centre, Orlando, FL Contact
Jacky Egli, P.O. Box 1328, Longwood,
FL 32750 (305) 886-1563

August 15 - 16
Canadian Clogging Festival Aurora,
Ontario, Canada Contact Sylvia
Hunka, 5 Springhouse Sq. Scarboro
Ontario MIW 2X2 Canada
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August 23
West Virginia Clogging and
Hoedown Championships, Civic Center
Charleston, WV Contact CBS
Travelers, 910 Scenic Dr. Charleston,
WV 25311 (304) 744-2952 or 344-1975

September 26 - 29 Cloggers Cruise on the SS Dolphin Leaves Port of Miami for Bahamas Contact: Value Tours (305) 327-3400 or Toll Free (800) 336-TOUR

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State or National (Non-Profit) Clogging Organization and functions put on to benefit a Nationally recognized Charity will be listed FREE, space permitting. All other Clogging functions for which an advertisement has been purchased in the main body of this paper, will also appear in Upcoming Events through the month of the Event.

COMPETITIVELY SPEAKING

By Steve Smith 281 Boiling Springs Dr. Lexington, Ky. 40505



BEING A DYNAMIC DUO IN COMPETITION

The subject this month is duet (Buck and Wing) dancing in clogging competitions. I hope to offer you some helpful hints and some interesting thoughts to ponder.

First of all, there are several points to consider when choosing a partner! First and foremost, is your partner someone that you can work with and feel compatible with as a dancer? It is difficult and often frustrating work to try and orchestrate a duet together. If both of you are not committed to this task and cannot tolerate the ensuing trials and tribulations, then you may want to reconsider.

Also, I would suggest that you choose someone whose physical features and style of clogging are fairly similar. Remember that you are dancing as a couple, and similarity in appearance and style will enhance your performance and presentation.

Some other initial considerations include deciding whether your duet will have a theme that relates to the particular music you are dancing to (usually the story line or the vocals) or will be choreographed to an instrumental where "theme" is usually not a factor, whether you will use the same or opposite feet (or some combination of both) during the routine, and whether you will need to edit your music by putting it on tape.

Duet vs. Line Dancing

Two people standing side by side doing the same steps are not doing a duet! They are doing a line dance! There must be interaction between two people for the dancing to be considered a duet. This includes physical interaction, posturing that suggests that other as a couple! This is one reason why it is important to be comfortable with your partner. If there is uneasiness about looking at, touching, or dancing with your partner, then it will show and you will be merely two individuals dancing at the same time on the same floor. I have even seen individuals "rise and shine" in competitive duet dancing. If I were judging, I would give them a big fat "O".

Choreography

Keep the routine short. Edit it if you need to put it on tape. As a result you will have less time Page 4

to make mistakes and you will keep the audience's (and judges') attention.

With my partner and wife, Janet, our style is to agree that only one of us will write the rough draft and then both of us will work out the kinks as a couple. We have found it too difficult a task to try and write a duet "together". Your experience may be different.

Open strongly and end strongly. The entrance and exit should convey a sense of confidence, excitement, and coupleness.

Always try to begin and end by touching each other.

Coordinate some hand movement together to enhance your precision.

Intermix hard steps with easy ones so that there are "breathable" moments during the routine. If the routine is so hard that you have to struggle to finish it then you will never appear relaxed and at ease.

Hints and Suggestions

Practice in front of a mirror to notice style differences and to improve precision.

Be patient. The single most common reason that people give when I ask them why they haven't worked up a duet is: "We just can't get along" or "We end up getting mad at each other". Welcome to the world of compromise and patience! It's not easy! Try to understand that you are both working for a common goal and that rewards don't come easy. Stick with it and you'll be glad you did.

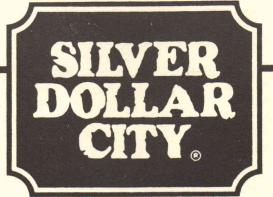
The most frequent mistakes that I see made in duet competition are:

- Not dancing WITH each other (no "coupleness").
- 2) Setting the music too fast. Remember, this is not a race. Set the music at a speed that highlights the duet, not strains it. There is a tendency to set the music too fast at a competition when the adrenalin is pumping. One way to avoid that problem is to tape your song at the speed that you want so that it will remain constant.

Be creative! Janet and I have won several duel championships and one reason for that is the creativity that our duets reflect. Don't just do a run-of-the-mill duet! Create a new way to interact with your partner that you haven't seen before. In doing so, you will begin to create your own style and add character to the dance.

Duets are a lot of fun to do. The interaction is special and there is an intimacy in duet dancing that is not found in any other form of clogging. Give it a try and let me know your results.

I'm Steve Smith Lexington, Ky



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Tips for New Choreographers

By Barbara Kohler Gold Coast Cloggers

There have been several excellent articles published by well known instructors as to the format for the structure of a routine. I'm taking a different approach - the mental attitude of the budding choreographer! First of all, it is pronounced "core" not "chore" and it shouldn't become a chore but a fun way to express yourself.

So many directors have told me about the hours and hours of work to create even a portion of a routine. This really isn't necessary. Let's try to change this into a free-thought process!

First: Pick music that you like. After listening to it a few times put it away. Wait a few days then listen to it again. If it still moves you then you have passed the first step!

Two: Your selection should have lots of variety in the phrasing. Keep a tape playing when you are in the car or doing housework and just let your mind go! Instead of trying to think of steps to do to the music, let the music tell you what to do. Don't feel that you have to start on count one and work your way bit by bit to the end of the song. In 30 year, of choreographing for my living, I have never gone from A to Z. I often start in the middle and work

toward both ends at the same time. When you hear a phrase that sounds like a favorite step, write it down and then listen for something to go before or

Three: Don't force yourself to be creative. If it isn't a good day and nothing fascinating comes to your mind, forget it and wait until later (or) tomorrow. I've burned many a dinner because I thought of a combination between the salad and the entree!

Four: Use your free time for ideas. Notice everything you pass, billboards, newspapers, magazines, anything can fire up your imagination if you are receptive. I learned long ago to choreograph in my sleep. For me it's a necessity as I often have several shows in rehearsal at the same time. Anyone can do that. All Cloggers have found themselves dreaming of a song they danced to that day. Why not put new steps to it as long as you are lying there doing nothing for 7 or 8 hours!

The main idea is don't get uptight and feel inadequate if creating is difficult at first. Even the very best professionals run into a phrase of music that won't fit with any steps they have spent a lifetime learning, so you are NOT ALONE! The more you create, the easier it becomes. Have confidence in yourself and GO FOR IT!!!



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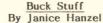
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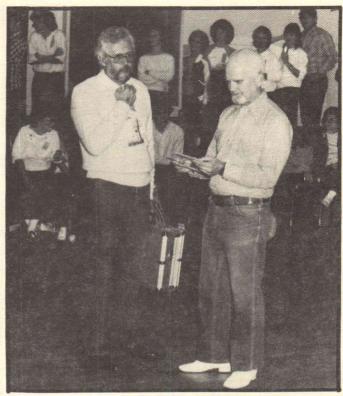
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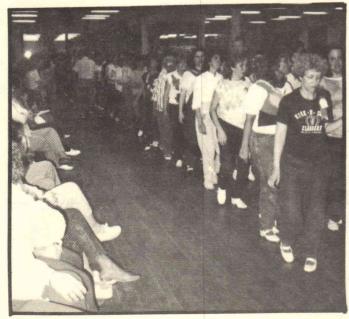
Possum Holler - Continued from Page 1



Clockwise: Upper left

Main Hall
Bill Nichols & Garland Steele
Marge Callahan and her
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Three Competition Winners
Mountain Style evening dance







Page 8

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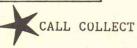
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TELL IT TO THE JUDGES

By Don and Heather Griffith



- Q. You suggested that we change to another musical selection because the speeded up vocal sounded like the "Chipmunks". Did you take off for this?
- A. We will deduct points for "Chipmunk" vocals when "quality of music" is an item on the score sheet and the vocal is annoyingly distorted. Otherwise, we suggest (in our written comments) that the team use another selection. There are many good instrumentals available and at least one is just right for you. Some vocals are great, even when the speed is increased. Most of them are not so great.

While we are talking about quality of music: Be sure that you select your music carefully for competition. Ascertain in advance that the arrangement of the music will project clearly in a large area — such as the place competitions are often held: school gyms, barns, civic centers, fair ground buildings. Music that comes across garbled or must be played too loudly in order to adequately project is very annoying to

judges — especially after sitting in front of a set of speakers for several hours.

Never record a tape from a record without patch cords. Never double record a tape (make a tape from a tape that was made from a record.) Avoid vocals when possible. Use contemporary songs if possible. (Their popularity will often catch the judge's attention because of the crowd reaction and because it is new.) Avoid music that is too far from country or that has a hard metal sound to it. (Most judges are older and appreciate the style of music with which they are most familiar).

There are countless songs on the market that will fit your specific needs and likes. Shop around until you find something that seems just right to you and to your dancers.





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Package will include your 3 nights accommodations, meals, entertainment, unlimited complimentary wines served each evening at dinner and a variety of activities. Performances and Workshops will be held for Country Western Dancing, Two Step, Clogging and morel Also included is your roundtrip transportation by motorcoach with a minimum of 25 passengers per pick-up.

September 26 - 29, 1986 DATE:

RATES: Double Occupancy - \$299.00 per person

Triple Occupancy - \$249.00 per person

Quad Occupancy - \$219.00 per person

Port charges additional at \$25.00 - Adult, Children under 12 - \$18.00

First Deposit of \$75.00 Per Person is Due on May 1, 1986 Second Deposit of \$100.00 Per Person is Due on July 1, 1986 Final Payment is Due on or before August 4, 1986

Reservations may be made at any time, accompanied by appropriate deposit in accordance with deposit schedule. However, space is limited. Make your reservation NOW!

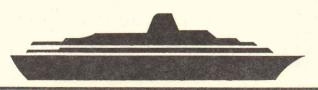
For Reservations Contact Value Tours of America Orlando (305) 327-3400 or Toll Free 1-800-336-TOUR

Dolphin's Cancellation Policy: \$50.00 per person if cancellation is received in written notice between 40 days and 30 days prior to departure. \$100.00 per person if cancellation received in written notice between 29 days and 3 days prior to departure. If cancellation occurs less than 3 days before departure, or if the passenger is a "no show" all monies will be withheld.

 Value Tours of America also has a \$25.00 per person cancellation charge if cancellation received within 30 days prior to departure.

For Details on Workshops and Dance Performances Please Contact:

> Sue and Tom Toor P. O. Box #563 Longwood, FL 32750 (305) 695-6437





Thirty-Fifth

National Square Dance Convention®

P.O. Box 44183 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 June 26, 27, 28, 1986

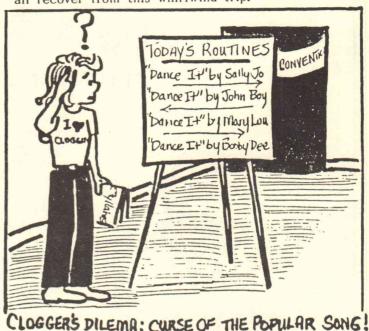
Excitement mounts as preparations continue for the 35th National Square Dance Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, June 26, 27 & 28, 1986. Over 20,000 have registered so far but with 25,000 square feet of Clogging floor, there's still time to register and room to share the fun. The top Instructors in the country will be there with their latest routines. Dancing will begin at 9:00 AM each morning and will continue to 11 PM. If that's not enough, there will be after-parties each evening from 11 PM to 1 AM. Thursday nights party will be hosted by the Anahiem, California Committee. Friday nights party will be hosted by the Houston, Texas Committee, and the finale on Saturday is to be hosted by the Indiana

> Mike & Carolyn Kell Vice-Chairman of Clogging 35th Mational Committee 315 W. 4th St. Seymour, IN 47274 (812) 522-8199

Clogging Council. For more Information:

Good Time Cloggers Valrico, Florida

Luxembourg, Germany, Switzerland and Austria are on the agenda for this Clogging group. They leave July 2, and return July 20. They will be performing in each of these countries, and will stay with German families while there. Director Sally Root has promised an article and photos, once they all recover from this whirlwind trip.



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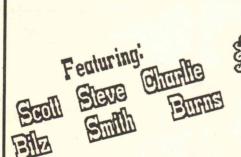


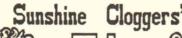
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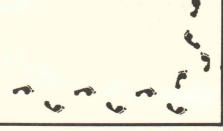
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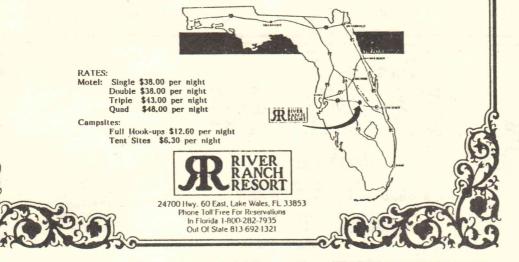
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