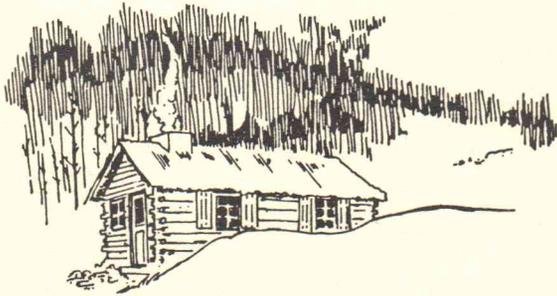


THE DOUBLE TOE TIMES

Volume 4, No. 11

A Clogging Newsletter

November, 1986



A Little Log Cabin

Reprinted from November 1983

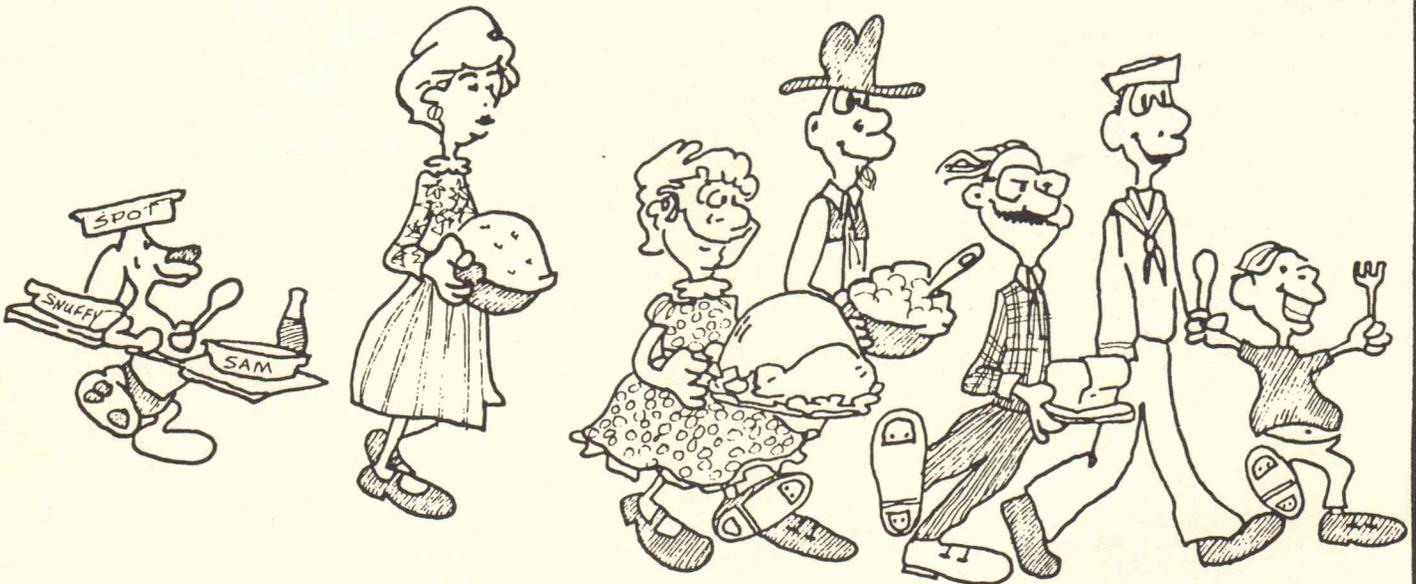
The migratory birds are passing through on their way further south for the winter. The nights are cooler, the air-conditioning is off. Not quite time for the fire in the fireplace, but we're beginning to get firewood up to dry on the front porch.

My thoughts turn back to "The Farm". There'd be a kettle of applesauce bubbling on the back of

the stove. The kids would be out in the lower meadow piling up maple leaves to jump into or chasing the white Pekin ducks into the creek. The neighbors cows have been milked early and are in the lower field, their black and white patterns please the eye. Our donkey brays at the neighbor who rattles by on his red Ford tractor. He's pulling a contraption that bales hay, and he's going lickety-split hoping to take advantage of the fine dry weather. Our two hogs are ready at Altschull's abattoir - the smoked hams and bacon, the sausage, the chops and roasts and ribs all packaged and labelled and pre-frozen. There will be a can of fine white lard for pie crusts and loaf pans of scrapple made from an old Mennonite recipe. Fried scrapple, eggs and toast on a cold snowy morning gives one the heart to don boots, scarves, heavy coats and radiator-warmed mittens to go feed the chickens and chop ice out of the water buckets in the barn.

I've just acquired a two foot long section of log, weather-beaten gray, with only the rough semblance of its long ago shape, It is an actual piece of a

Continued on Page 8



...And we give thanks for our clogging instructor and our extended clogging family, too!

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THE DOUBLE TOE TIMES

PUBLISHER/EDITOR

Bobbie Adams

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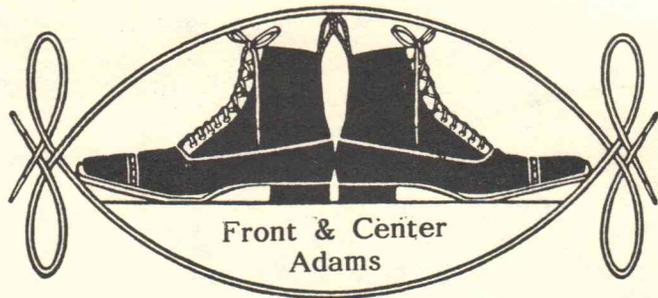
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The Cost of Lessons . . . and The Dividends!

As a Parent, you probably will be investing in some sort of extra-curricular instruction for your child. Piano lessons, Ballet, Little League, Swimming, Clogging and Tennis have equipment and lesson fees and it takes time and energy to transport to and from classes. Investigate carefully before plunging in!

The main benefit to exposing children to lessons of any kind is that it broadens their horizons. They may not be "professionals" when they grow up, but will certainly be more able to enjoy the adult recreational aspects later on, and certainly will be a more appreciative audience!

"Enjoyment is the key because if a youngster is not eager to go to his piano lesson, he won't stick with it very long. Successful teachers make friends with their students and encourage them to have fun, but if the student doesn't have his heart in it, he probably won't do well."

Professionals in a wide range of sports and arts say that participation in these activities inspires children to do their best, and the discipline learned spills over into their school work, resulting in higher grades. Recitals, annual "shows", and performances give youngsters self-confidence as they progress in proficiency, and suddenly that shy child is raising his hand in the Classroom or has enough poise to try out for a school play.

The cost of lessons depends on the activity you choose, the equipment needed, the going rates where you live, and whether you've selected private or group instruction. Remember that just because someone can play the flute well doesn't necessarily mean she can be an effective teacher. "It is important that children be taught correctly at the outset because bad habits are hard to correct later on."

"Before making a final choice, go to classes and observe how the instructor behaves and how his students perform. Beware of teachers who push students too hard with little regard for the child's well-being. In tennis and swimming, for example, a coach's reputation sky-rockets (as do his job opportunities) if he can produce Olympic-quality protégés. Of course you want to encourage your child to go for the gold if he has talent, but it should always be done considering his best interest."

Tennis: Private lessons - \$10 to \$30 per half hour plus Club Membership; racquet \$50 to \$100+; shoes \$25 to \$50 per pair; plus shorts, tops and warmups. One private lesson a week, one or two drill sessions plus practice sessions can add up to \$500 to \$600 per month. Tournaments can add \$100 to \$200 per month.

Swimming: Year round Swimming Program which includes water time and coaching around \$900 per year. Suit \$15, goggles \$5. Travel to meets can amount to \$1500 to \$2000 per year.

Horseback Riding: Private lessons (rented horse) \$10 per half hour. The other end of the spectrum is ownership of a show horse or top Junior Hunter which can top \$100,000. This category is a bit like the old saw about owning a Cadillac. You needn't worry about the price of hay!

Continued on Page 16



Upcoming Events

November 8

Sharptop Mountain Workshop
Dixie Express Cloggers, Marsha
Brendel, Rt. 2, Talking Rock, GA 30175
(404) 692-6104 or 692-2714

November 14 - 15

Southeast Clogging Championship
Raleigh, NC Contact Bob & Betty
Gordon, 5921 Wintergreen Dr.,
Raleigh, NC 27609 (919) 781-6760

November 21 & 22

NCHC Fall Dance & Workshop
Plato's Crash Landing Contact;
Simone Nichols, Rt. 3, Box 307B,
Walhalla, SC 29691
(803) 638-6002

November 29 & 30

3rd Annual National C.L.O.G.
Convention Hamilton County
Trade Center, Chattanooga,
Tennessee Write: JoAnn Gibbs,
3452 Summitt Ridge Dr.,
Doraville, GA 30340
(404) 934-1691

December 11

Sunshine Cloggers 'Tis the Season
Dance 7 PM Maitland Civic Center
Maitland, FL (305) 695-6437/834-8255

December 12 & 13

N.E. Georgia Championships
Athens, GA Contact: Susan
Stowe, P.O. Box 633,
Jefferson, GA 30549
(404) 367-9052

December 26 & 27

Alabama Clogging Council
Workshop & Jamboree, Doster
Civic Center, Prattville, AL
S. & A. Rodgers, Rt. 6, Box 628C,
Sylacauga, AL 35150
(205) 249-3285

December 27 - 28

Clogging Workshop & Dance
Pierce County Armory, Tacoma
Washington. Contact Anne Bresch,
15701 264th St., E.,
Graham, WA 98338
(206) 893-3564/847-6818

1987

January 16 - 18

Southern States Championship
Daytona Beach, FL Buckin' Mule
Call JoAnn Gibbs, 3452 Summitt-
ridge Dr., Doraville, GA 30340
(404) 934-1691

February 20 - 21

CSRA Clogging Festival
Civic Center, Aiken, SC Contact:
Peggy Gasque, 4409 Ga. Hereford
Farm Rd., Evans, GA 30809
(404) 863-9074

February 20 - 21

8th Texas Cloggers Rally, Ramada
Hotel, Dallas, Market Center
Contact: Skip Lemmond, 719
Ticonderoga, Garland, TX 75043

February 27 - 28

Bearfoot Cloggers Jamboree, Daytona
Beach, FL Contact: Beverly Dionne,
P.O. Box 1481, New Smyrna
Beach, FL 32070 (904) 428-5333

April 24 - 25

Midlantic Clogging Network
Spring Workshop. Medford, N.J.
Info: Marti Stevens, P.O. Box
60, Moorestown, NJ 08057
(609) 235-9468

June 6

Texas State Festival, Dallas
Clog Chrmn. John & Rosemary
Thompson, 5826 Valley Point,
San Antonio, TX 78233
(512) 656-1276

June 25 - 27

Nat'l. Square Dance Convention
Full Clogging Program. Houston,
Texas. Contact Rusty & Linda
Carolan, Chrmn. 606 E. Ramsey,
San Antonio, TX 78216
(512) 344-2557

POLICY REGARDING LISTING IN UPCOMING EVENTS:

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.

New Flash!

**C.L.O.G. National Convention - Chattanooga, TN
November 28 & 29, 1986**

JoAnn sez -- All listed Hotels are FULL except the Hilton. The Hilton has reduced their rates to \$50.00 per night quad occupancy. You may phone directly to the Hilton now for rooms. Be sure to state you are coming for the C.L.O.G. Convention. The Hilton is five blocks from the Convention Center. (615) 266-5000. Do NOT call the 800 Hilton number,

JoAnn has booked one more outlying Motel - Howard Johnson's. \$40.00 for up to quad occupancy. (615) 265-3151. You must mention ANN HAMILTON to get the special rate.

NEWSLETTER EDITORS MEETING: Friday November 28, 1986 at 7:30 AM. EastWest Meeting Room, Holiday Carter Plaza. There will be a cash buffet breakfast in the Ballroom. Get your breakfast and carry it to the EastWest Meeting room. Anyone is

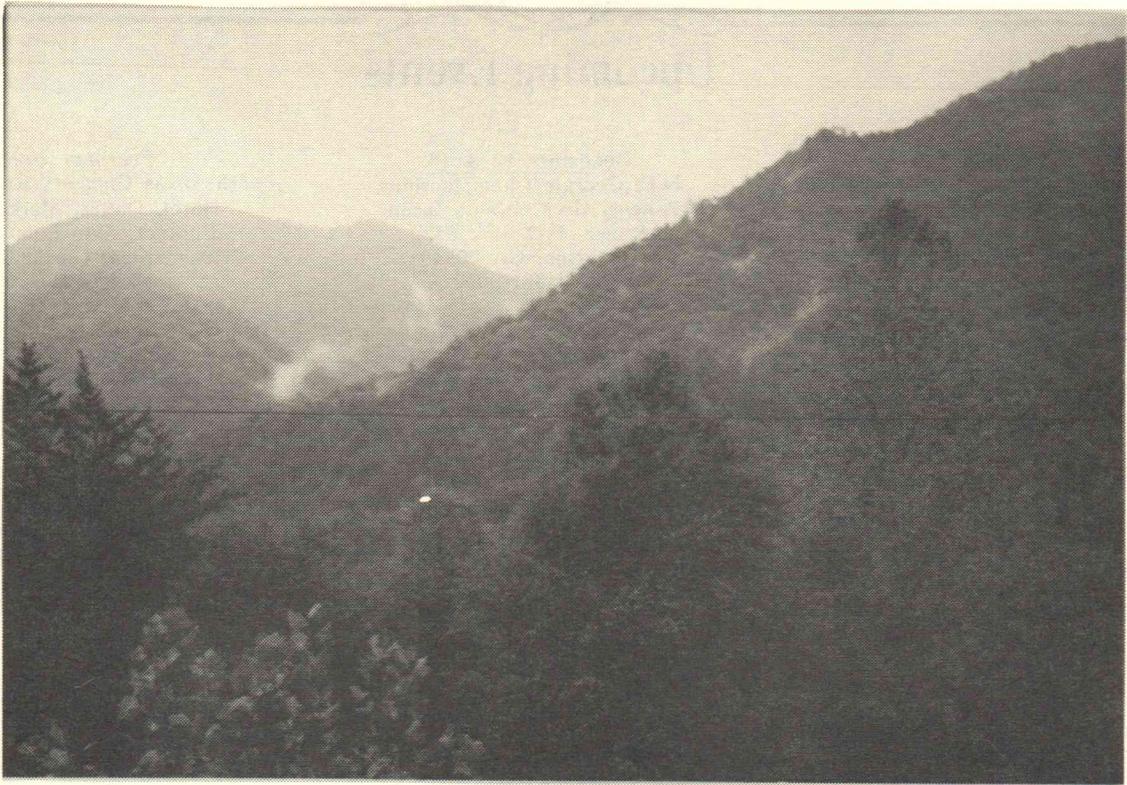
welcome! You need not be an Editor to attend.

STATE ASSOCIATION MEETING: Chris Haas will be the Moderator. Saturday, November 29, 1986 at 7:30 AM. EastWest Meeting Room, Holiday Carter Plaza. Get your cash buffet breakfast and carry it to the EastWest Room. Officers or Representatives of all State or National or Regional Clogging Organizations are urged to attend to report on the years progress, plans for the future with a question and answer time for new Associations.

Convention Survival Tips
Condensed from Nov/Dec LACA News

Buy a Syllabus immediately - schedule what you want to learn - don't forget to schedule lunch! Check out building layout (map). You may have to run! Amazing what you can miss by being a few minutes late!

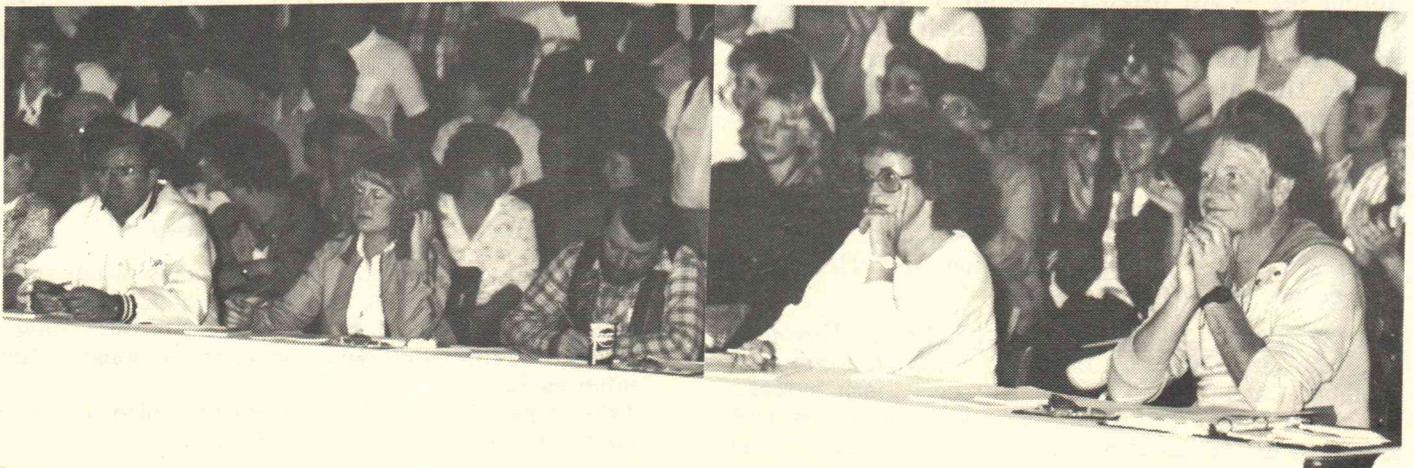
Take a pen for possible corrections; also a tape recorder if allowed - BATTERY only.



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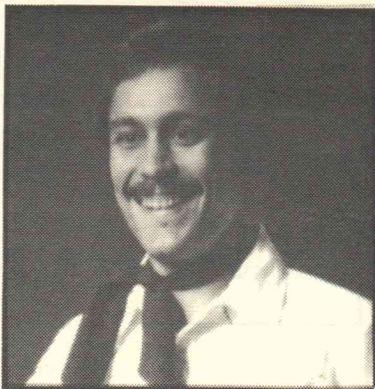
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A Picture Is Worth A Thousand Steps

By Steve Smith



Now picture yourself just before going on the floor. You are relaxed and talking to those around you. You have worked hard and know that you are as ready as you can be. You also remind yourself that this event is not life or death matter. You know that you can handle whatever outcome is handed you by the judges.

Next, picture yourself competing just as you would like to perform. Initially you may have to picture someone whose dancing you very much admire. Later on, you will actually be able to picture yourself dancing confidently and enthusiastically. When you are able to do this, you will be creating positive imagery that your body can duplicate during the competition. Practice at least as often mentally as you do physically, every day if possible.

Good dancers have usually already developed the skill of mental imagery to some degree, even if they do not formally go through the procedures described here. Some have developed positive pictures as a result of past successes. But remember, future successes can just as easily follow positive pictures. This is not just positive thinking--it is positive practice. Try it!! If it's good enough for Jack Nicklaus, well....

While the title of this article may be overstated, it is a proven fact that mental imagery is a useful aid in any athletic endeavor. Many successful professional athletes use mental imagery to give them "the edge" in competition. Several professional teams employ sports psychologists to teach competitors the skill of mental imagery. Jack Nicklaus has

said that he never hit a shot in his life when he did not picture exactly how he wanted the ball to fly and where he wanted it to land. So what is Mental Imagery?

Mental imagery consists of visualizing mentally a behavior as you would like to repeat it at some point in the future. If this sounds complicated - well, it really isn't. You have used mental imagery every day of your life!! Every time that you day-dream, worry, plan, or dream about future goals you are using mental imagery. Mental imagery can either be positive or negative. In particular, most people use a form of negative mental imagery before competitive events. They picture themselves "messing up", making mistakes, and being laughed at by others. That is just the kind of mental imagery that you can do without!! Now let's look at some of the ways that you can practice positive mental imagery so that you can be better competitive clogger.

First, and most importantly, you must be in a relaxed state of body and mind. This is important for the following reasons:

- (1) When you relax your body, your ability to mentally concentrate improves immensely;
- (2) By practicing in a relaxed state, you make it possible to reproduce those same relaxed feelings during the competition.

Next, get in a comfortable position and close your eyes. Take a few deep breaths initially and then let your breath become even and smooth. Remember a time in your life that you felt very relaxed so that you can bring back those feelings and re-experience them in the present. Pay attention to those relaxed feelings and let your body slow down. Let your mind clear and focus only on your breath for a couple of minutes. Feel your entire body relaxing--muscles feeling comfortably heavy. This period of the mental rehearsal will take about 3-5 minutes.

Now picture yourself just before the competition. Notice how relaxed you are--confident that you will dance your best--not focusing on whether you will win or not. You have no control over that!! Worrying about something you have no control over only leads to more anxiety. What you can control is your level of anxiety so that you can dance your best.

Videos From a Clogging Scene to the TV Screen

by Mehl Renner
Director: Misty Mountain Cloggers
Happy Birthday!

Videos are on the scene and are here to stay. Along with this blessing of current day technology comes a few problems and opportunities for us clog dancers. Got your shoes on? Look sharp and smile big! Ready? - Action! Keep those cameras rolling!

Hold it, hold it - No Videos Please! This has
Page 6

always been one of the most repulsive requests I ever hear from a clogging group. It certainly lowers my opinion of that group considerably. It is the ultimate in snobbery and a selfish remark that says "my steps or routines are so great that you will be tempted to steal them should you use a video". Your greed will be matched only by my conceit. I say - so what - if someone really wants someone else's material, why can't we share?! To be copied is the ultimate compliment. Are groups making this request afraid someone will take whatever they are hoarding for themselves and do it better? Videos taken of my group are considered a high form of praise and I welcome them anytime. Granted, bright lights or too many videos could

Continued on Page 8

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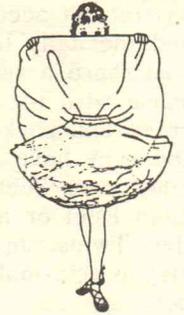
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log cabin built by my Great Great Grandfather in 1802 near Gradyville, Kentucky. I wish someone had written an account of the building of that cabin, and the daily lives of the people who lived there. Was there a smokehouse? A root cellar? An ice house with ice cut and dragged up from the nearby creek and packed in sawdust? Was there a barn? Did they have a barn-raising and a barn dance? They were Scots-Irish people - did they do the Virginia Reel or maybe a little "jigging"? We know that Twins run in every generation of our family, maybe this malady known as "Clogging" is a family heritage too!! Tales are told of my Grandfather and his twin brother doing some lively "jigging" to fiddle music at a country hoedown!!

It is a satisfying feeling to watch the jars of tomatoes, bread n' butter pickles, jams and jellies, and applesauce accumulate on the cellar shelves; to know the freezer is well stocked against winter. It is also a good feeling to know a little bit about my heritage. Perhaps this was also the reason my long ago relatives gathered together for a family feast after the crops were in and the air grew nippy with a hint of the winter to come. A fresh wild turkey, or venison, dried corn soaked and baked, pumpkins and squash and beets; white potatoes or sweet potatoes cooked with sorghum from the sugar cane. The dried apples and the wild cranberries. Cold cider and taffy pulls. Most especially I laugh about my great Grandmothers mince meat - I'm told it was darned near 90 proof!! Maybe when the fiddler rosined up his bow, the mincemeat helped start the "Jigging"!!!

May you all have a bountiful and blessed Thanksgiving!

Bobbie Adams

Finale: American Folk Dance of Florida

On September 22, at the Sunrise Musical Theater in West Palm Beach, Florida, Governor Bob Graham presented the signed Resolution HCR 740 designating as the American Folk Dance of Florida: The Square Dance (and the six related cultural dance forms - Square, Round, Clog, Contra, Line and Heritage).

After a demonstration of Square Dancing by Southeast Area Square Dancers, and Clogging by Chris Rawls and the Magic City Cloggers representing the Florida Clogging Council, Frank and Nan Habersberger (pictured above with Governor Bob Graham) as Chairman of the Campaign, accepted the Signed Resolution. This makes the sixth State to have achieved this designation.

Editors Note: Our Hat's Off to Frank and Nan Habersberger who carefully planned and executed their campaign and got this bill passed in only six months!! BA

prove to be a distraction. Hopefully, those involved will let reason dictate.

Videos are obviously a great way to self-critique your clogging team and point out mistakes, whether you are preparing for a competition or polishing up a show routine. Often it really helps for the director to take the videos because that person can better anticipate the routine moves.

Some instructors have gone to a lot of trouble to package a video to sell as an aid in teaching. Although I have never had the occasion to use such a video, I hear a little about how bootleg copies get around and instructors or directors who actually have the audacity to ask for answers to questions from the video producer when they haven't even obtained a video legitimately. This is not right.

Videos are a good bit more sophisticated than the old home movies, but offer the same opportunity to have a little history and some good memories to view in years to come. I wouldn't take anything for a video of our groups entire show performance at the Worlds Fair in New Orleans in 1984.

My group performed once at an event that was poorly promoted and attended. In spite of my insistence that they always put their best feet forward, their clogging looked more like the "worst going backwards". The scene looked like a lost cause until someone drove up and stepped out of their car with a video camera. Amazing what a camera and maybe a little vanity will do. Suddenly there was serious clogging and smiling like you have never seen!

Yes, videos are here to stay. Turn them off, turn them away? - Not this team, No Way!!



Outstanding In Their Field

by Foreman Heard

I do a lot of driving to clogging events, many of them hundreds of miles from home. I pass a lot of the time by listening to Bill Cosby tapes, but before I had a car with a tape player, I spent much of the time looking at the country side. You can get in a lot of looking in twelve hours. On occasions, my traveling companions and I would play various games, invented to keep children occupied on long trips, games like "Buzz", "Alphabet", and "Cowpoke". Cowpoke, of course being the one in which a person or team choses the left side of the road and the other team has the right side of the road. As you drive along you count the number of cows in the fields on your side, keeping a running total. The first team to reach a previously set number or the high score at the end of the trip is the winner. If you pass a cemetery on your side of the highway, you lose all your cows and you have to start counting again at 0.

I have brought up the game of "cowpoke" as a kind of history of my involvement with cows, and how I came up with theory upon which I am about to expand. Looking at so many cows you begin to wonder what they are thinking, the make-up of each local cow community, and how they interact with each other. Surely in each field there is a "cow leader" who directs each cow as to where it should graze and how much grass to eat in one spot before moving on. Surely one of them decides which few should brave the barbed wire fence and test the

grass on the other side to see if it is really better. Surely there is one cow who determines whether or not they should all stand up and eat, or go over and lie down under a tree and chew. And, surely there is one leader who determines when the day's grazing work is completed and the march back to the barn should begin.

I am sure that anyone who has ever watched cows in a pasture has at one time or another thought about these things and has come to the same conclusions that I have. There is, however, one peculiar trait of cows which I am still studying and have yet to find any supporting opinions as to its validity. I, therefore, offer it to you for ideas which hopefully will help confirm my observations and formulate a theory which will end the controversy once and for all.

Cow Guards and the Wind-Face Theory

Postulation: In any given field of cows, seventy-five to ninety percent will be facing in one direction, and at least three cows will be facing to contrary compass positions.

In other words, say you have a field containing twenty-five cows. At least eighteen and perhaps as many as twenty-two cows will be facing the same direction, for example East. There will also be at least one cow facing South, one facing West and one facing North. My thoughts behind this occurrence are so simple, I am surprised that no one else ever wrote about it.

Continued on Page 16

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Cruisin' Cloggers

by Elaine Froman

Attention all cloggers, two-steppers and associates of the aforementioned who did not go on the Country-Western Cruise, September 26-29-read on to find out what you missed. For those of us who went, take a few minutes to relive the glorious three days aboard the Dolphin.

From the time we boarded the bus at 8:30 Friday morning until we returned safe but exhausted on Monday afternoon, it was a continuous happening not to be soon forgotten. First a Big Thank You to Sue and Tom Toor for arranging this trip and to Candy Zorn with Value Tours for making all the necessary reservations and seeing that we were all taken care of with the utmost efficiency.

There were two sittings for our meals. Our group was seated the first sitting-time being 7:00 AM for breakfast, 12:00 for lunch and 6:00 PM for dinner. The meals were wonderful and the times were great except for breakfast. The problem being I couldn't find very many people who made the breakfast sitting. We had such a good time every night the 7:00 AM was a little bit too early. Thank goodness they had a breakfast buffet every morning until 10:30 AM. The lunch and dinner menus were outstanding. We truly made pigs of ourselves and loved every minute of it. Wine was provided with dinner and there was always plenty for everyone. The food courses were truly gourmet including such items as caesar salad, lobster tails, prime rib, baked snapper, and let's not forget the ambassador creme soup. One taste of this soup was a culinary delight. The incredible mid-night buffets each night, featured beautiful ice sculptures and outlandish decorative vegetable creations as a back drop for a sumptuous feast.

The Sunshine Cloggers performed the first night out and what a performance! They were super and by the applause everyone else thought so too. Cheryl and Tommy Baker, the Freedom Cloggers, also performed. A charming couple from Jacksonville, FL did a fancy two-step performance, Georgette & Dick Dion are their names. Another group on board, called the Hoedowners, a clogging group from Ft. Myers, FL, hired by the Cruise Line, performed both nights, and wanted to learn some of The Sunshine Cloggers routines.

There was a great band on board called Starfire. Everyone seemed to enjoy doing some fancy two-stepping to their music.

On Saturday morning the ship's first stop was



Dolphin Cove. Many of the group opted to go ashore to swim, snorkel, participate in games and contests. One of the members of our group won the "hairy legs" contest. Congratulations "Edwina". There were those of us who chose to go on to Nassau for a day of shopping. Some of the better buys in Nassau were perfumes, china, and liquor. There is of course the Straw Market where alot of serious negotiating takes place and we all came away with thinking we had made a good deal. Some of us also ate some delicious conch salad, conch chowder and conch fritters. I guess you could say we "conched out".

There was also a Disco on board that was fre-
Continued on next Page





Cruise - Continued

quented by some of our group. There was a workshop held in the disco the afternoon that we left. New routines were tried out and several of us learned how to clog that very afternoon. Maybe the new dance form will be disco-clogging.

Our last night out was indeed spectacular. After dinner everyone headed for the lounge for one last night of dancing and partying. For some of us who had the good fortune to meet him, Moo Moo made a brief appearance. There were others who became Turtles (one red hen . . .). An eventful night to say the least. And last but definitely not least, there was the casino. Did anyone come away a winner? I kept hearing money falling out of the slot machines but it never fell in mine.

We had a fantastic time and we all hated to see it end but one couple in our group will be going again in the near future. Maria Klinger won the cruise (two for the price of one) when she turned in her comments sheet. Congratulations Maria, have a wonderful time. Well I am sure I haven't told it all and that is probably a good thing. We can hardly wait for the next one. If you did not join us this time, I would suggest seriously considering going on the next one. It promises to be a trip you will not forget.



"Traditional" clogging style?

by Nancy A. Biehler

Release to The Double Toe Times, September 1986

I used to think that I could tell by the way a person clogged what part of the country he or she was from. That was ten years ago, when the differences were stark. One could immediately recognize an "east coast" clogger, who had presumably grown up in his tradition, from a "west coast" clogger, who was "book learned" on clogging (had never actually seen a real clogger clog before he learned how to do it).

However, such identification is no longer possible. In my research on competitions I observed thousands of cloggers from all parts of the country. I discovered new diversities in my east coast/west coast theme -- Scotty Bilz, Elliot Skeen and the phenomenon of the Utah clogger. I learned a so-called "buck" style of dancing and I learned about "rhythm buck", even more complex -- and my theory was all shot to hell!

Dr. Jerry Duke has lectured extensively on the old-time buckdance. He describes an African influence, now seen mostly in the Georgia Sea Islands, that features a forward lean of the body, arms pulled back with elbows pointing upward and flat, shuffling footwork. The appearance somewhat resembles that of a full-grown chicken!

Shelia Popwell emphasizes an erect body posture, free swinging arms and an up-and-down body motion which is produced by steadily shuffling feet. This is depicted in what most of us today may call a "traditional" clogger.

Dennis Cobia teaches a "lope" step, which he reports originated among the Cherokee Indians, and is evidenced by continuous dancing on heels and toes. This type of footwork more closely reaches what we call "buck" dance style, perhaps the name grew from the Indian "buck" step. Although some give equal credence to the growth of that footwork from the Negro slave, who evolved his own "buck" steps. (One story goes that during the minstrel days --

1820's to 1860's -- a black man would dance for a "buck", hence the derivative of the name buck steps.)

And while I was able to identify cloggers who manifested one of these clogging styles, I also found cloggers who exhibited a composite of all of the styles. My favorite example is young John PerMar, whose photograph now rests with my master's thesis in the Library of Congress. At the time I captured his image I did not know his name, only that he was from Florida, so I hope he has forgiven my indiscriminate use of his physique without his permission! In my photograph of John, you can detect him demonstrating a forward lean (Duke's model), free swinging arms (Popwell's idea) and clogging on toes (Cobia's description). And he's from the southeastern United States!

You can understand my chagrin. My explanation then on the theory of clogging styles became a matter of predominant styles in a given area or, even more logically, the teaching influence which provided the model for the new clogger to follow. I was forced to collect statistics on how a clogger looked whether he leaned or stood up straight, whether he swung his arms or held them back and up. The statistics are interesting, but will be saved for another time and space. Suffice it to say that it really is not possible to pinpoint the perfect traditional clogging style any more. With thousands of cloggers across the country, and more being groomed every day, it has become a matter of how and where a clogger learns his skill, and not necessarily how well he dances, that distinguishes a representative style. And when one considers that most traditions are meant to be embellished, I have no doubt that the "traditional" clogging style will continue to prosper amidst the growing number of influences, like so many grains of wheat, as a truly American harvest.

Editor's Note: Nancy now resides in Austin, Texas, where she is continuing her research into the clog dance heritage through studies at the University of Texas.

The "Boss" and Pass the Buck

John PerMar, Director of The Clogging Machine and a Buck dance Instructor and Choreographer, receives a pat on the "back" from his Pass the Buck team in Fontana Village, N.C.

Pass the Buck is composed of dancers from many Clubs in and around Central Florida and Tampa on the west coast, who are interested in Buck style clogging.

The Pass the Buck team pictured here was made up of all Instructors! From left they are: Tom & Sue Toor, Kim Carson, John "The Boss" PerMar, Mary Duckworth, Lee Holton, and Rob Caldarazzo.

Editor's Note: Pass the Buck placed a very commendable 2nd in the Adult Line - out of 4 Teams!!

Page 12



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- HOEDOWN
- SOLO'S
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- 8 COUPLE
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- DUETS

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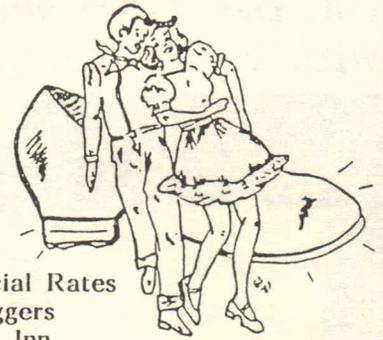
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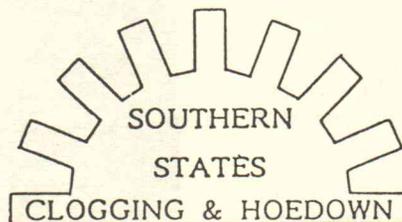
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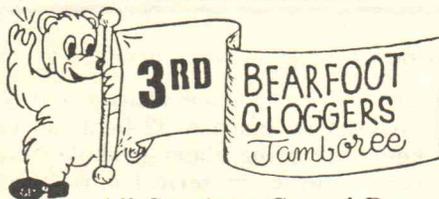
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The BIRD Arrived with Flying Colors



by Mary Ann Stanley

It was indeed a Parrott A-Fair in Jackson, Mississippi, Saturday, October 11, 1986.

Jeff Parrott, affectionately known as The Bird, was the featured instructor for the Mississippi Association of Clogging Instructors (MACI) clogging festival held at the State Fair.

With his flair for the unusual, he kept the group literally on their toes as he taught fancy foot work as well as styling for all ages.

We had cloggers in attendance from all over Mississippi as well as from Alabama and Louisiana, and they were from the very young to the young at heart!

With all of the clinking, clanking and the far-out music from the Fair Mid-Way - plus the tantalizing aromas of Fair food (cotton candy, hot dogs, BBQ, confectionaires, Pizza, etc) drifting through the clogging building, we "Boogied Down" (by Al Jarreau) with our fierce determination of "Can't Stop Now" (by Randy Travis) and not for one minute did we think we were "Going Nowhere" by Michael Martin Murphy!

Willis Arnold, Mobile, Alabama and Danielle

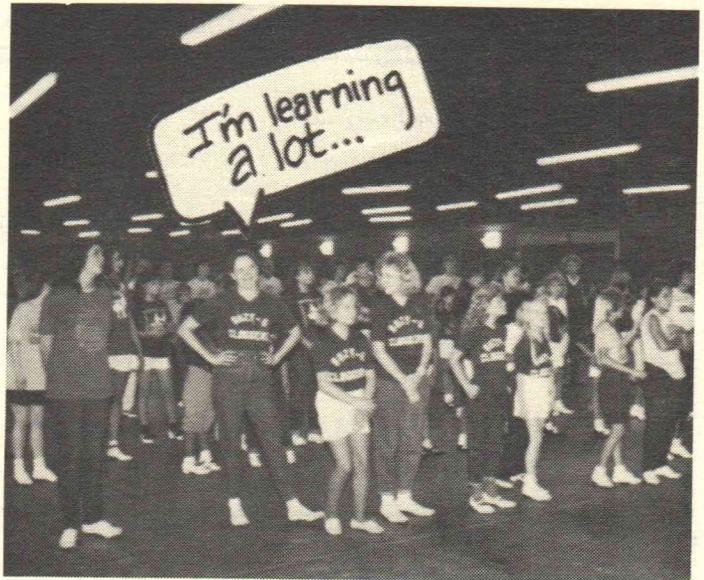
Morales, Prattville, Alabama, proved wonderful instructors as they too, taught some of their favorite steps.

We had exhibitions Saturday night and Jeff gave us a sample of his free-styling, which has won him so many trophies and championships. Jeff staged a Dance-Off Contest and gave the winner a beautiful trophy. You had to make it through the dance without missing a step while Jeff operated the turn table, speeding up or slowing down the music. The one who was left on the dance floor was the winner. If you missed a step or messed up you had to leave the floor. It was great fun!

After our festival - - - Look out Mid-Way, here we come!!!! We rode the Pirates Ship first and some of us (I won't call any names) came away with our coloring changed a little bit and maybe a different feeling in our tummies.

We ate ice cream, played the frog game and sooner than we so desired, had to retire to the motel in order to alleviate the aches and pains of our tired old bones.

Sunday morning Jeff, Mary Ann, and Evon, raced against the clock to get the Bird in flight back home. We almost missed the plane and ran through the airport, all weighted down with luggage and clogging paraphernalia!



TELL IT TO THE JUDGES

By Don and Heather Griffith



Q. What did you mean when you wrote (on a scoresheet), "Fit your (line dance) routine to the music better." ?

A. Line dances should be choreographed to fit the music. Other team routines focus on figures. Line dances do not employ figures, so line dance choreographers must concentrate on step complexity, step variety, stage coverage, formations (where allowed),

Page 14

and coordination of body movements.

In early stages of line dance routines, it was common for cloggers to learn a 32-beat series of steps and to keep repeating them (usually turning a quarter of a turn after each series) until the music

ended. Today, many routines begin and end with the start and finish of the music, and dancers seldom repeat steps. There is a great deal of latitude for "interpreting" the music through the dance itself. Breaks, pauses, changes in tempo and intensity, need to be considered when arranging a line dance routine.

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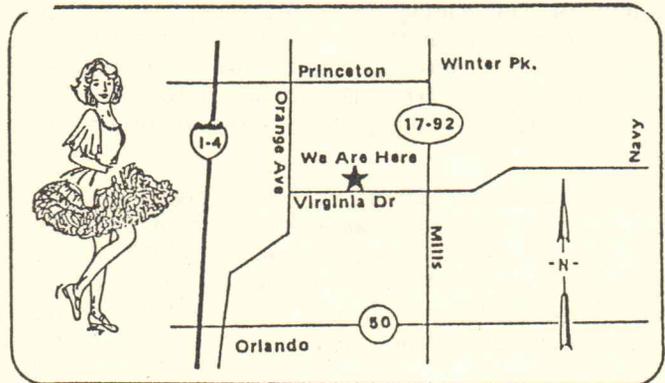
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Lessons - Continued from Page 2

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The cost of private music lessons can range from \$5 per half hour to \$65 an hour, from an outstanding teacher. A piano can range from \$3500 to \$20,000 for a small grand, a Clarinet \$1500 and a good guitar \$500 to \$1000.

Dance: Ballet, Tap, Jazz and Modern Dance are usually taken as group classes in a dance studio or a School of Performing Arts. As such, the fees are usually monthly or in the form of semester tuitions. The average is \$25 to \$35 per month. We understand that in some areas Dance Instructors teach Clogging in their Studios, along with the other dance disciplines.

Clogging: Cost of lessons vary with desire and ability. Average beginner classes range from \$2.00 per hour in large all-age group classes to \$6.00 per half hour in a dance studio with 10 or less students. Many dance studios teach only Tap, NOT Clogging, check it out before enrolling.

Private Clogging classes can range from \$10 to \$25 per hour, and a team may pay \$50 per hour for a coaching session from a prestigious instructor.

Equipment required for the beginner is minimal - a pair of taps installed on any pair of hard-soled shoes (\$12 to \$15) will suffice.

As with any activity, one can simply attend one class a week and progress at their own pace for a minimum cost, or begin to participate in more than one class, and attend Conventions, Workshops, and

Performances. This usually requires one or more "Club Outfits" which can simply range from a T-Shirt, Jeans and specified tap shoe to a custom-made dress plus pettipants and petticoat ranging from \$75 to \$150. Some Clubs require immediate purchase of 2 to 4 "Outfits" upon joining the Exhibition Team.

One of the truly unique things about Clogging, in most parts of the Country, is that a whole family can participate for a nominal cost. It follows that the kids are not merely dropped off for classes, EVERYONE stays and participates. We once again see the whole family unit, as in the early days of this country, enjoying a recreation together. The benefits both financial and emotional are incalculable!

The facts and figures for all "lessons" can vary, depending on the goal - i.e. a Western/Riding Lesson once a week at a small local Stable \$8 to \$10 per hour, with no thought of owning a Registered Quarter horse and entering a Top Cutting-horse Competition; or swimming lessons at the Y for about \$5.00 per class simply to learn to swim.

In summarizing, I thought back about the many years of Classical Piano which gave me the ability to appreciate Horowitz at the White House, recently on TV, the brief exposure to Ballet which enhanced my awe of Rudolph Nureyev live at Kennedy Center in Washington several years ago, and our annual family trek to see The Nutcracker Ballet locally every year. I skied, rode horses and swam and at one time had lessons in all of them. While I never came close to being an Olympic competitor, I can remember one or two ribbons in a local Horse Show, several Piano Recitals (the overwhelming relief that they were OVER) and the time I pulled a youngster out of over-her-head depth in the pool and ALL the kids I taught to swim and dive.

I have an appreciation of the arts and a sense of self-accomplishment that has paid dividends far beyond the original intent or cost of the lessons!

Outstanding - Continued from Page 9

Long before cows became domesticated, they must have roamed in great herds across the face of Europe and East Asia, much like the bison in America. Their survival instincts dictated that they should always be on guard against predators, their only defense being the power of the stampeding herd. No wolf pack or mountain lion would stand a chance in its path. In order to be able to move at a moments notice, and to avoid the confusion of running off in numerous directions, the majority of the herd faced in one direction only, away from the wind.

To protect the flanks and the rear, a few cows faced different directions, mainly into the wind where the sense of smell would warn of attack. The remainder of the herd facing away from the wind would rely on eye-sight. It would be assumed that not every cow would be looking down and eating grass at the same moment. If an alarm was sounded, the herd could be off in a flash.

Domesticated cows still have that certain instinct to protect themselves in the field. That is why even today, the Cow Guard Wind-Face Theory
Page 16

still holds true. Look for yourself at the next group of cows you pass. Cows are one of the most intelligent, highly developed animal societies in existence, and yet they continue to cling to actions from their primitive past.

In future articles on cows, we will Examine man's relationship to cows, and his curious habit known as "bovinitis", which is the uncontrollable urge to lean out of a car window and yell "MOO!" when passing a herd of cows. All opinions and theories expressed in this article are those of the author and should be taken with a grain of salt and a little Heinz 57.

Editors Note: This is the first article we have had from Mr. Herd in many a moo. It is allegorically profound and mooving. It may win a Nobull Prize.



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We are now having our Directory typeset and each State is arranged in alphabetical order. Current listings should be checked for "typos" - please notify us at once if there are errors.

New Jersey, Maine, Colorado, Nevada, New York, Kansas, Iowa, Maryland, Oklahoma, Delaware, North Dakota, South Dakota, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Oregon, Alaska, Hawaii, Montana, Vermont, New Mexico, Idaho, Nebraska, Connecticut and Wyoming - we have Subscribers in most of these States, so we KNOW there are Clubs and Teams out there. We added Louisiana to our Directory this month and lots of folks in Texas and Tennessee!

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