STHE C OUBLE TOE TIMES

Volume 5, Number 12

A Clogging Newsletter

December 1987

mam/ - Female of human species with strong desire to Clogger's Mom /'klag ars spend every minute with offspring in a small, hot dance studio. Often seen in a group led by team rep. or sitting on front rows of audiences clapping. Identifying characteristics may be any number of the symptoms described below.

Bad eyesight from strain of reading road maps & sylabusses.

Hard of Hearing from sitting too close to sound system.

Teeth lost in fight over

Permanent wrinkles from fatigue caused by late night practices and socials.

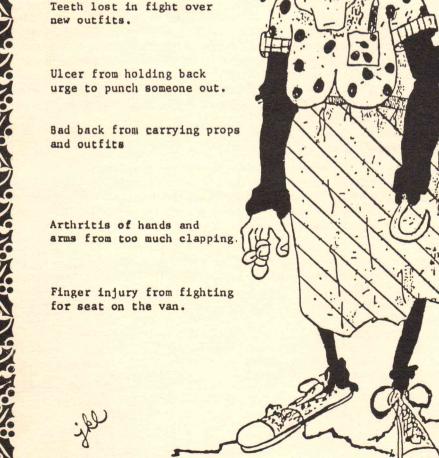
> Poor Posture from sitting on bleachers, the ground, or anything not moving to watch a show.

Tacky clothes - clothing budget for year went to outfits.

Overweight from eating too many breakfasts at McDonalds.

Hand lost in tape player.

Tennis shoes to aid in dashing out the door when director calls a last minute practice.



THE DOUBLE TOE TIMES

PUBLISHER/EDITOR Bobbie Adams A Clogging Newsletter

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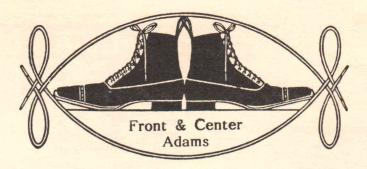
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We promised to print responses to Novembers Editorial regarding "line and Show" and choice of music. We will do so in the January issue. To date we have only had one reply defending the type of disco or rock music under scrutiny.

Good Grief! This entire issue is nearly done, and we haven't said one word about December's biggest event -- The Holidays!! There will be school vacations for both Teachers and children, the malls and shops will be filled with merchandise and shoppers, we will all eat too much, overload our Credit Cards and spend the next few months dieting, paying bills and picking pine needles out of the rugs. It's a lovely time of year, and I wouldn't change a thing. Judy and I wish all of our readers HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

My Holiday will be spent On the Road Again! I will be attending The Berea Christmas Dance School in Berea, Kentucky, December 26-31, 1987. Write Dr. John Ramsey, Christmas Dance School, CPO 287, Berea, KY 40404 for more information.

Our Editorial Hat's Off to the new Editor of C.A.W. (Wisconsin) Marian Lewis. Her first newsletter is truly professional! There have been several Editor changes recently -- all CEA members please update their Reciprocating Mailer lists. The job of being an Association Newsletter Editor is usually begun with a great deal of enthusiasm, but quickly becomes frustrating if there are more critics than contributors. Be nice to your Editors folks! This is the season of gifts. Perhaps the best gift at any season is a simple Thank You. And speaking of Thank You's - one dark rainy day last week, I arrived home to find an FTD Florists bag on the front step, containing a Rainbow Mug filled with lovely flowers. It did wonders for my sagging spirits - is it proper to say Thank You for a Thank You? Aw shucks, THANK YOU Presidents!

We are really excited about having a JEFF DRIGGS WORKSHOP on April 30, 1988. If we have enough response, and for a small extra charge we will also have an <u>Instructors Workshop</u> on Friday evening. More details in our January issue.

First Person Funny: I truly hate to shop, and thus it had been a long while since I had been in Jordan Marsh. I made a bee-line for the second floor corner nook where the fashions for Mrs. Marsh (we of the ample figures) were to have been. Nothing seemed familiar, and so I asked the cute Junior Petite clerk where the "fat lady" department was located. "Oh", she said, "we moved it to the basement where we have more room." She had the grace to blush and stammer when she realized what she had said! It's a good thing we fat ladies are known for a good sense of humor!



Upcoming Events

December 10
Sunshine Cloggers Christmas
Dance. 7-10 PM Maitland
Civic Denter, Maitland, FL
All Welcome, See Toor (FL) Dir.

December 11 & 12

Alabama Clogging Council
Winter Jamboree
Doster Civic Center
Prattville, AL. See
McCullar (AL) Directory

December 18
Cabbage Patch Christmas Party
Gulfport Community Center
7-11 PM. See Lamping (FL) Dir.

December 22
Breezin' Easy Cloggers
Christmas Party, All Welcome
7-10 PM Tavares Community
Hall, See Carson (FL) Dir.

January 9
Deep South Toedown
Quitman, GA, See
Lowe (GA) Directory

January 15 - 17
Southern States Competition
Daytona Beach, FL
See Gibbs (GA) Directory

January 22 & 23 Country Jamboree Bonifay, FL. See Spivey (FL) or Smith (FL) Dir.

January 22 & 23
Kickin' 88
Macon, GA. See
Bridgeman (GA) Dir.

January 22 & 23
Dixie Trot Competition
Aiken, SC
See Lee (SC) Directory

January 30
La Clog Workshop
Baton Rouge, LA. See LaBlanc
(LA) or Stewart (LA) Directory

January 30
Clog America
Winter Camp, Salt Lake City,
Utah, See Steele (UT) Dir.

February 5 - 7
NCHC Judges and Director's
Workshop, Raleigh, NC
See Farlow (NC) Directory

February 7 GCLA Workshop Cordele, GA See Lowe (GA) Dir.

February 19 & 20 CSRA Clogging Festival National Guard Armory Augusta, GA. See Blanton (SC) Directory

February 26 & 27
Texas Cloggers Rally
Austin, TX. See
Whitefield (TX) Directory

February 27 & 28

Bearfoot Cloggers Jamboree
Daytona Beach, FL. See
B. Dionne (FL) Directory

March 5
Hot'Lanta Workshop
Fayetteville, GA
See Dees (GA) Dir.

March 11 & 12

SC Clogging Council Workshop
Aiken County Fairgrounds
Aiken, SC

See Heyward (SC) Directory

March 25 - 27
Master City Competition
Augusta, GA. See
Carter (GA) Directory

April 8 - 10 NCCA Workshop San Jose/Santa Clara Fairgrounds, CA. See Elling (CA) or Hanzel (CA) Dir. April 16
S. Atlantic Championship
Waynesville, NC. See
Finger (NC) Directory

April 16
Indian River Pow Wow
Merritt Island, FL. See Perkins/
Redfern/Bonner (FL) Directory

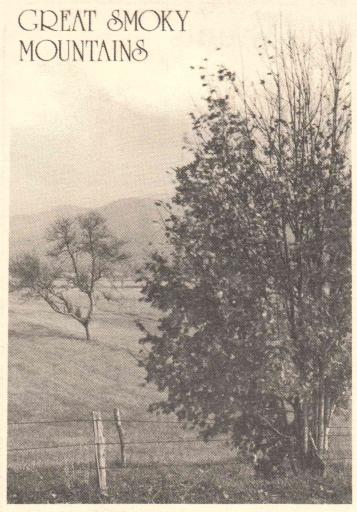
April 22 & 23
Cactus Country Clog Fest
Mesa, AZ. See
Davis (AZ) Directory

April 23 - 30 Country/Western Cloggin' Cruise Caribbean See Edwards (NC) Directory

April 30
Jeff Driggs Workshop
Central Fl. Square Dance Center
Longwood, FL. 10 AM-11 PM
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May 13 & 14
CAW Jamboree IV
Downtown, Green Bay, WI
See Back (WI) Directory

Listing in Upcoming Events State or National (nonprofit) Organizations and functions put on to benefit a Nationally recognized charity, will be listed FREE, space permitting. All other functions for which an advertisement has been purchased in the main body of this paper, will also appear through the month of the event. Instructors who appear in the Directory of this paper may list a special event in Upcoming Events AND receive a 10% discount on additional advertising.



On the Road Again

By Bobbie Adams

Sometimes through sheer chance, a vacation-ofsorts turns into one of those jewel like memories by which all succeeding trips are measured. I've been fortunate to experience not one but three this year - and each one was so very different from the other. My Bus trip to Maine, with my dearest friend Carol Harker and the Flatland Cloggers; my awe-



Esmeralda Inn Page 4



some trip to Austria with my Mom; and now a six day wandering Autumn jaunt with long-time friend Geneva Spivey, Director of the Bass Country Cloggers, Palatka, Florida. All three trips were marked by lots of laughter. Perhaps that is the key ingredient!!

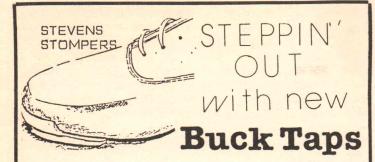
Our first stop was in Chimney Rock, North Carolina where, when the sun goes down behind the hills, it is suddenly dark. Most summer folks are gone by mid October and Lake Lure was seemingly deserted. We viewed Chimney Rock and the Falls from the bottom, ate a wonderful dinner at the Esmeralda Inn and stayed in an elderly Motel fronting on a noisy rock-strewn creek that was positively tranquilizing the night through. The morning proved cool and foggy, so we went down the winding road 'a piece' and saw a neon sign in the near dark that said OPEN BREAKFAST. We had decided to eat at Mom & Pop cafe's - the determining criteria would be the number of pick-up-trucks in the parking lot! One young workman, also having early breakfast, at this unnamed restaurant, confessed to being a "sort of" clogger at the Saturday night dances in Chimney Rock's town hall.

On the road again, we took a leisurely trek toward Maggie Valley, North Carolina, stopping at apple orchard shipping barns, craft and antique shops, flea markets and some of the "scenic overlook" pull-offs. The hills blazed with yellow-leaved trees and an occasional flame-red maple and green pines dotted the hills as though for contrast. Smoke curled from a chimney here and there. The fog burned off and the hazy "smoky mountain" roads grew ever more winding and tortuous.

Just outside Maggie Valley on Rt. 19 is Yesterday's Crafts. Owned and operated by Jesse and Jean Spain, their doll, toy and bear museum room is delightful and the items for sale are mostly those of "150 mountain crafts people". Jean is a true Arctophile (Bear 'collector' person) and makes charming jointed Teddies. Alas, she had no donkies or burros (I have collected mules and such for over 30 years) but she promised to try to locate some before I go to Maggie Valley next Spring, with Skip Lemmond's group!

We met Mary Sue Edwards at the Stompin' Ground, Maggie Valley, North Carolina early and had a chance to browse around before the 8 PM show. The trophy cases pictured, are also filled with memorabilia of a long family association with mountain dancing.

Continued on Pages 10 & 11



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OR

The Dilution And Pollution of Clogging

By Steve Smith

There's a philosophy about life that permeates all that we do in the United States. It appears to exemplify our society more than that of any other that I am aware. As we have become technologically progressive, increasingly mobile, and spend less and less time with our families of origin, we have adopted certain values about the way we live our lives. This philosophy embraces change, newness, youth, competition, and material acquisition. While the impact of this philosophy could be explored in various life domains, I will restrict my discussion to the effects of this philosophy upon the development of present day clogging.

First, let's compare clogging to spaghetti and meatballs. Now everyone knows that spaghetti and meatballs is a fine dish that has stood the test of time. Although different recipes might include some variation of ingredients to provide particular enhancement of the dish, you probably wouldn't find clams, garbanzo beans, lettuce, turnips, snicker bars, or coca cola in any recipe for spaghetti & meatballs. In other words, experimentation for the enhancement of the original recipe is not a problem - - but if the chef begins to add several of the above ingredients then the dish begins to change form and can no longer be considered spaghetti and meatballs. He has indeed created a different dish and does some injustice to eaters everywhere if he does indeed call it homemade spaghetti & meatballs.

Clogging and buck dancing today reminds me much of the spaghetti and meatball dish that is no longer recognizable as such. The dance form has changed so much that it bears little resemblance to it's original. Dancers look like tap dancers with costumes straight out of tap and jazz magazines; line dances are the rave of the day involving no interpersonal contact and squelching any spontaneity with their pre-choreographed footwork; the majority of music played is disco, rock, heavy metal, electronic boogie - - nothing that existed more than 30 years ago; records are almost exclusively used - live music doesn't lend itself to pre-choreographed line dances.

I will now take qualities that exemplify our national philosophy and illustrate the influence that they have exerted upon our clogging dance form.

Youth - - More and more adults are withdrawing from clogging and allowing youth to define what clogging is in it's current form and where it is going. They need guidance from us, along with their freedom to be creative and innovative. The last workshop I was at consisted almost entirely of teenage instructors. Because they have little knowledge

of clogging history and little sense of tradition, they fail to communicate any persective to their audience when they do teach. Some of them can't speak, most are teaching to newly published rock, and almost all are alienating the adult clogging population. Some organizers are even gearing their workshops to target the "kiddie" population. They alter, deface, and dilute clogging to the point beyond which it is even recognizable. Who's to blame - - none other than the adult population - - expecially workshop and competition promoters at a national level. They have much influence over the form that clogging presently takes and it's future direction.

Change and Newness - - "Traditional clogging is boring!" Many youngsters and women without a male partner eschew traditional clogging either because they aren't fond of the music (youth) or they don't have a partner which traditional clogging often demands (single women). This is understandable and I am not for the prohibition of line dances or rock music - - Do not misunderstand me - - What I am pointing out is that there appears to be a replace ment of tradition and I am calling for a spirit of cooperation so that the two can coexist.

Competition - - Competition is the American Way. However, the philosophy in this country entails becoming better by becoming more creative and innovative than the next fellow. Because change is such a pervasive part of our culture, we don't emphasize honing a skill or craft, instead we emphasize finding a way to do it "better". This affects our clogging in the following way. Instead of working on our style, timing, presentation, and smoothness in competition, we try to "get the edge" with new steps, flashier costumes, wilder music, and add other forms of dance to our routine (tap, jazz) so that we "stand out from the others". I think that the emphasis is in the wrong place. I'm tired of show categories, tap dance, glitter, and gymnastics. If you want to do those things then be a gymnast or a tap dancer. Don't mix my spaghetti with my Coke and expect me to like it. Do you mix all the food together on your plate?

Material Acquisition - - Our emphasis on the almighty dollar leads us to offer that which will generate the most income. Promoters are particularly vulnerable to this temptation. As a result, numbers of people takes precedence over quality of programming. This leads to youth-oriented programming, a glitter and "show business" mentality, and .ultimately the never-ending quest to offer something that another promoter does not. This usually results in more, not better programming.

Folks, because we don't know where we're going. we are ending up somewhere else. I'm not saying that where we are is bad, it just isn't clogging and let's don't call it that. Let's call it New Age Buck/Tap or Modified Tap or Buck-A-Rock. Clogging has an identity that is rapidly slipping away from us. My hat goes off to the National Clogging and Hoedown Council who is dedicated to the presevation of traditional clogging. I am especially glad that they will play a significant part at the National Clogging Convention by offering workshops and classes in the

Continued on Page 16

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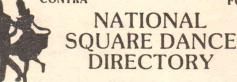
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Arkansas Folk Dance Festival

By Martha Lee

After the Armadillo Stampede and C.L.O.G.
Teaching Seminar in Oklahoma City, I enjoyed an overnight stop in Russellville, where I visited old friends (yes, I took some flowers to the cemetery, I do miss my Bill!). The following day was sunny and warm for my drive on to Little Rock, shopping for dance wear at The Stage Door, and lunch under the trees at The Scallion nearby, before driving up to Mountain View via Heber Springs and Geers Ferry. Since I was a whole day early for the Folk Dancing Festival September 11 and 12, there was time for leisurely travel and sightseeing, personal chores on arrival (laundry and hairdo) and my September letter to you.

The Festival was a great pleasure, as always - spacious room at the Ozark Folk Center Lodge with a view of the woods, good country cooking, live mountain music for the dance workshops, relaxed atmosphere and a warm welcome everywhere, and delightful old-time music and dancing to hear and see in the evenings.

The schedule for the two-day event included Stone County and New England Squares, Scottish, Irish Ceili, Couple Dancing, 19th Century Quadrilles, Challenging Contras, all wonderful to watch. The clogging workshops were taught by Frank and Terri Bonner and Rhonda Price, from Acworth, Georgia. In addition to beginning, intermediate and advanced American style clogging steps, they taught several steps used in Lancashire Clogging, which are done in wooden-soled English clogging shoes. It was great fun, and I have written to a clogmaker in Lancashire County, England about ordering some shoes to try.

The Lancashire steps use a shuffle which is similar to our double toe, but the timing and music are different. For example here is one of the steps that was taught:

First Lanks Step Shuffle Step Step Hop Shuffle

L R R L L R

1 &-2 & 3 4 &-a

(Alternate feet - 3 each foot)

Note that a part of the shuffle can be on the down beat, and the step that follows may be on the up beat, unlike American clogging, and may be done at different speeds (eights as well as sixteenths of a 4-beat measure).

An interesting step without shuffles was:

Suwanee

(Repeat starting on opposite foot, then do two of (2) and another (1) & (2) - Heel & Toe are swivels)

These steps and others are combined into a routine in Frank Bonner's book Clogging and the Appalachian Square Dance, but it's difficult to figure out the timing without instruction, at least it is for me. I plan to practice what I can learn more next September at the workshop.

Among the advanced clogging steps taught, I especially enjoyed the buck style "call and answer" steps - two dancers (or a group) invent their own personal greetings, like saying without words "Hi, how are you?" "I'm just fine." Or "Anyone here I know?" "Yes, here we are." Their example:

Call

Heel-Ball

R a-4

Answer

True to the spirit of the Folk Center, the clogging exhibition dances are all done to live pre-40's country music, and dress is generally long skirts or dresses for ladies (calicos, ginghams), and jeans with suspenders and long sleeved shirts for men. There was a jig contest (no taps allowed) for all ages, and the dancing was wondrous to see. There are always some great local dancers competing, but I would like to see more "city" folks participate, and show off their expertise with the hoedown music, for greater variety. (I tried it - really blew it! - but then I'll never have the "stuff" to be an exhibition dancer, and should've "stood" in the audience. Nobody seemed to mind too much, but next year there will probably be a qualifying procedure. The music was fast for me, and my street shoes too loose excuses, excuses!)

It was great to see David and Donna Peterson again. Their music and dancing just keep getting better and better with the years, if that is possible. Dwayne Glanton from North Little Rock, was also one of the clogging instructors (Beginning Buck), but I somehow missed his class.

My trip home on Sunday (12th) was filled with pleasant memories of Oklahoma and Arkansas, dances and steps, teaching techniques, sights and sounds, and all the wonderful people along the way. And here I am again, home safely. Take care, Little Sis, I love you.

The Lone Clogger

P.S. You Might be interested to know that the Ozark Folk Center has an extensive library of folk music tapes and books available for research. I found works to a song that I've never before seen written down anywhere - remember "Sam Hall"? Well, would you believe in Folk Songs out of Wisconsin, a book edited by Harry B. Peters, it's called "Samuel Small", and though there are differences both in words and tune, it's the same song! Never Continued on Page 16

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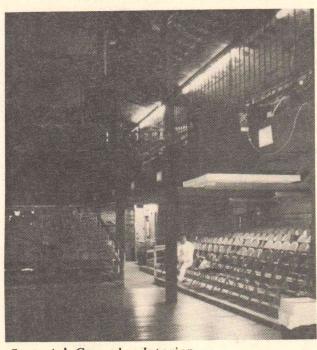
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From Page 4

The culmination of a twenty-five year dream, Kyle and Mary Sue opened The Stompin' Ground in 1982. The sign out front states exactly what it is, and once inside the excitement generated by an outstanding live band and the beckoning tongue and groove wood dance floor are enough to lure many dancers onto the floor. A young team of Cloggers from a nearby town performed on this Thursday evening to an audience of about 300. Seating is tiered on three sides and full capacity is 2,000 with "not a bad seat in the house". Though I am certainly no engineer, the sound and acoustics are incredible. I wandered all sides and up and down during the band's sets, and found clear sound with no distortions anywhere in the building. The Nashville Network program Fire on the Mountain is filmed at the Stompin' Ground during November. The weekend of October 24th (one week after our visit) was American Clogging Hall of Fame Awards weekend, While we were there, we had the pleasure of talking to Earl Powell, President of ACHF. He has promised to keep us informed of ACHF activities.



Stompin' Ground - Interior



Mary Sue Edwards Page 10



Trophy Cases - Lobby



Broom Dance



Kyle Edwards

Friday morning bright and early we left for Fontana Village, North Carolina for the Universal Championships. We had hoped to see Burton and Becky Edwards at the Stompin' Ground only to learn that

From Page 10



Spring Creek Junior Cloggers, Madison County, NC Director: Beth Ann Church



Magnum Cloggers

they and the Magnum Cloggers, would be competing at Universal. The only winners we are sure about are Overall Female Solo, Sherry Glass, Hawkins County Hoedowners, Surgoinsville, Tennessee and Overall Male Solo Burton Edwards, Magnum Cloggers Maggie Valley, North Carolina. The Sportsmanship Trophy was awarded to Somethin' Southern, J. & B. Harper, Meridian, Mississippi.

Though some folks didn't appreciate the humor, we especially enjoyed the only entry in Adult-Show "Raisin the Dickens" clearly done for fun, the group announced they were from the Napa Valley, directors Ernest and Julio Gallo. Nine purple faced grapes did an uncoordinated parody to "Heard it on

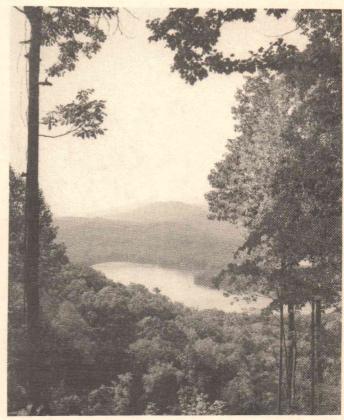


Raisin the Dickens

the Grapevine." (This Editor had not seen it prior to "Show" time and truly would not have known her daughter and son-in-law were part of the "bunch".) No sour grapes here!

Fontana Village has been sold to a corporation called Peppertree, who will be building luxurious time-share units, we assume to replace the aged cabins.

We took several leisurely days driving back to Florida and both agreed that the Fall Foliage was spectacular, the weather gorgeous, the hospitality of Kyle and Mary Sue Edwards unparalleled and the Universal Championships at Fontana Village wonderful.



Do We Love Each Other? Yes Indeed We Do!

Director says, "Thanks for the Memories".

By Sally Root

The Good Time Cloggers had a great summer! Our entertainment on the cruise ship "Oceanic", was a new experience for several of the dancers as now they have "danced on water". Of course we lost several dancers to the wonderful shopping, swimming and the ever present slot machine's. There were a few of us who had problems getting into our outfits for each show after partaking of the fabulous food which is located everywhere on the shop. Cruising and Clogging definitely go well together.

The time has come for me to say "farewell" to all our clogging friends in Florida since my family and I have moved to North Carolina. I would like to say "Thanks" to clogging in Florida, for all the opportunities to dance. Meeting and working with the Vice President of the United States, traveling to Germany, Switzerland, Austria, and Luxemberg, opening shows for several major Nashville stars - without my "Good Time Cloggers" I would never have had all these fond memories to look back on.

I have passed the leadership of "The Good Time Cloggers" to the capable hands of Will Chase and Bebe Manring who will carry on our tradition in Grand Style.

I'll be starting another group in North Carolina and am looking forward to this new beginning.

Thanks again to "The Good Time Cloggers" who made several dreams come true. I will always be grateful.

A Special Salute to Sally Root

By Will Chase Brandon, Florida

Sally Root leaves the Brandon based Good Time Cloggers for an all new life.

Sally founded the Good Time Cloggers some sevev (7) years ago and served as it's only director (except during the summers when she slipped away to her North Carolina mountain home). As the results of Sally's efforts - this team has performed for President Ronald Reagan, Vice President George Bush and countless numbers of other federal and state VIPs. The team danced at the 1982 World's Fair and Opryland USA in Tennessee; the White House, Jefferson and Lincoln Memorials in Washington DC and Stone Mountain, Georgia. Locally we've danced for the Disney Corporation, PM Magazine, Tampa Bay Buccaneers and Bandits, the Florida State Fair, Strawberry Festival and many other locations. Our group has worked with Charlie Pride, Jerry Reed, The Judds, Alabama, Hank Williams Jr., Mel McDaniels and Leon Everett.

The high light of Sally's "Good Time Cloggers" career came last year (1986) in a two part fold. First she took her team to Europe for 18 days. We were the guests of Dortmund, West Germany, Switzerland, Austria and Luxenborg. Secondly she finally got to open a show for her favorite super star - Jerry Reed.

While Sally has accomplished the goals she set out to achieve; she insists that the team must carry on - so that we will do. . . On behalf of the "Good Time Cloggers" I would like to take this opportunity to wish the Root Family our best of wishes as they pursue their life's dream and a very special salute to Sally for her guidance and contributions to this organization.



The Good Time Cloggers Page 12



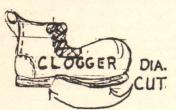
Sally Root (Left)

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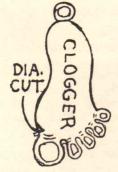
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Illinois Workshop

Name withheld by request

". . . for Illimois, 70+ Cloggers is a lot!

On Saturday, October 10, 1987, over 70 cloggers travelled to northern Illinois for the First Annual Feet Feelin' Fun Clogging Workshop. The instructor for the afternoon was Jennie Gallagher of Peoria. Both country and pop enthusiasts enjoyed the routines that were taught: "Stand On It', "Walking on Sunshine" and "I Wanna Dance with Somebody."

During the evening dance, two different exhibition teams from Wisconsin dazzled the crowd with their energy and fancy steps. The performances were by the K K Cloggers who danced "Pretty Little Angel Eyes" and a new group called the Cream City Cloggers dancing "At the Hop".

Valerie Wagner, the coordinator of the event, offered an evening meal to those who pre-registered. There was a long line for the supper but with a full crew of kitchen help, the meals were served up quickly. Afterwards, there was a hayride and a bonfire which were well attended. Another Workshop is planned for next year!

The "American Folk Dance" of the United States H.R. 2067

By Frank & Nan Habersberger,
Chairman,
National Folk Dance Committee

The National Campaign now has 100 Congressmen as Co-sponsors of this Bill. Last year the Cloggers in Florida gave considerable support to the Florida State Campaign in which the same six related Cultural Dance Forms were designated the American Folk Dance of the State of Florida. A Clogger and a Caller joined us at Tallahassee on May 20, 1986 to witness this State victory, and the Magic City Cloggers with their Instructor, Chris Rawls, joined with the Square Dancers in exhibitions at the Sunrise Musical Theater in the early evening of September 22, 1986 when the then Governor, Bob Graham, presented us with the signed Resolution of this historic designation.

We ask that the Cloggers join again with the Square and Round Dancers in the other "State Campaigns" and in the current "National Campaign". It is as important that we demonstrate our interest and ability to work together toward a common goal as it is to win this Campaign. The goal is to win, but the rewards will go far beyond such a victory. Please help us in this National Campaign and petition your Congressmen to Co-sponsor H.R. 2067.

There is only one trait that marks the writer. He is always watching. It's a kind of trick of the mind and he is born with it.

Morley Callaghan

THE FICKLE FINGER OF FATE



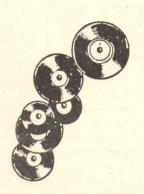
Fickle feels sorry for his Editor. She wrote an Editorial last month about "life after line and show" and the letters and phone calls are driving her up the wall! Fickle knew something was wrong when she came home with a set of darts - the sharp pointey kind, and now spends hours throwing them at a copy of that Editorial. Fickle doesn't know what she's decided - when the phone rings all she says are "unh huh's" and "uh huh's", but shes keeping score on a tally sheet marked PRO and CON. Old Fickle peeked and the PRO's are 'way ahead. That should make her happy but Fickle thinks the CON's though fewer in number, are louder and nastier. Maybe they feel threatened! Heh! Heh!

Fickle reads ALL the other newsletters that come in and this question of Videotaping has been a hot topic. A recent packet had this statement printed on the bottom of the page "We encourage video-taping of all types of clog dance locally to preserve the great individual and local variations. Traditional styles are fast being drowned in the move toward standardization." KENTUCKY COUN-TRY FARE, November 6, 1983, Dr. John M. Ramsay. Whoooeee! Fickle reckons that them as won't allow videotaping won't go down in the Clogging History Books now will they. Fickle has noticed more and more workshops that state Videotaping allowed for personal use only - not to be sold. The Instructors for these workshops must agree to be videoed, and if they use someone else's material permission must be given by the original choreographer. Now Fickle doesn't know what happens when an open dance time is filmed and a group dances a "forbidden" routine. This will eventually take care of itself since very few will know the unfilmable dances anyway, and eventually the record will become unavailable and so the whole matter becomes academic. The Editor had an interesting conversation with an older fairly new Instructor in a Western State who said "I can't remember ALL the material presented at a one or two day Workshop." "If I have it on film, I can practise at home and then teach it to my class." "I have decided not to attend any workshop that I can't videotape." This is not the first time Fickle has heard this statement, nor, he suspects, will it be the last. We've heard all these statements and articles on why videos should be allowed, now Old Fickle requests valid arguments from the filp side ..?

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"Pollution" From Page 6

more traditional aspects of our beloved dance. However, more is needed. I am challenging and pleading with those of you at a national level of recognizability and influence. Please maintain the integrity of the art form through responsible programming of traditional aspects of clogging, and restricted use of teen instructors, rock/disco music, line dancing, and show categories. You are parents of a nation of children that are learning to clog. You are in many ways responsible for the values and philosophy that they come to hold dear.

Clogging is and has always been wonderful, don't dilute or pollute it. It stands alone, tall and proud.

"Arkansas" from Page 8

would have guessed it came from Wisconsin, and will try to find out more about its' origins. I think I first heard it on a San Francisco radio station in the 40's and was intrigued by the illicit profanity of the words (the book uses blanks). Also, found some great folk song anthologies at The Dulcimer Shoppe. I keep hoping to find some marvelous stuff nobody has thought of choreographing for clogging, but no luck so far.

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(I wrote about 3 weeks ago airmail, but

have not yet received a response.)

For information about the Folk Dancing Festival,

Folk Center Lodge, Jig Competition, Folk Music Library:

The Ozark Folk Center Mountain View, AR 72560 Center (501) 269-3851; Lodge (501) 269-3871

David and Donna Peterson: "The Peterson Family" is a well known musical group in Arkansas; their son plays "fiddle", Donna sings and plays dulcimer and guitar, David plays the dulcimer and hammered dulcimer. They also teach and dance in most of the exhibition teams, including clogging, and David teaches at Arkansas University. They live in Greenbrier, Arkansas.

Another illusion, seldom entertained by competent authors, is that the publisher's readers and others are walting to plagiarize their work. I think it may be said that the more worthless the manuscript, the greater the fear of plagiarism.

Stanley Unwin

Chatt-Town Clogging Festival

By Regina Ufford Chattanooga, Tennessee

Chattanooga - altho it is filled with cloggers all around the area - was not used to being host to workshops of any size until the C.L.O.G. National Convention took over our city Thanksgiving weekend 1986. People got excited in our community and hungry for more. Out of that desire to learn more about clogging was born the 1st Annual Chatt-Town Clogging Festival. Lo, and behold - it worked! Tandy Barrett and Scotty Bilz came in to help Regina Ufford put on an all-day festival that was a fun day of learning for cloggers from Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama. All morning dancers soaked up Tandy and Scotty's instruction. A special treat came at lunchtime with Jack and Nancy Hall from Whitwell, Tennessee exhibitioning Western Line Dances. Jack is an area instructor and had some younger students to help demonstrate. Then he taught "The Slide" for us - with a "boogie" to the front and a "boogie" to the back. Thanks Jack and Nancy! The afternoon had everybody working out again with more instruction from Tandy, Scotty and Regina. We learned rock, we learned country, we learned bluegrass! Hey, we learned to clog to it all! Exile and The Fat Boys would have been proud of

Exhibitions and a lot of fun and dancing awaited us that evening. Shannon Baker and Staci Shelton started off with a duo, followed by Wildfire Cloggers from C&S Clogging Unlimited, then several groups from Chatt-Town Clogging Studio danced their exhibitions. Midnite Express put on one of their usual excellent performances and The Mountain Lake Cloggers finished up with a terrific show. Some of the teams wanted to show off their individual rise and shines so we let them come back up and dance.

The finale for the evening was an individual male competition. Scotty Bilz, Tommy Cox, Kevin Phillips, Chris Sutphin, and Greg Fuell were contestants. Of course, the judges were all female - Melissa Pickett, Staci Shelton, Jan Dawson, and Linda Smith. It was, I'm sure, the most unorthodox competition you'll ever see. Seems that one of the contestants even threw money to a judge as he danced by. Of course when the audience begged to see them dance again, the music got quite fast. All competitors displayed an excellent performance! Tommy Cox won 1st place and was awarded a Tshirt donated by George Little of Litco, Inc. (whose booth was an added attraction to our workshop). Of course, all the fellows were awarded a badge for participating, but Scotty was the real winner for coming to Chattanooga to help make the workshop such a success! Thank you so much Tandy and Scotty - we love you - and look forward to having you back next year!

There's nothing to writing. All you do is sit down at a typewriter and open a vein. Red Smith



State Associations

AL* HEART OF DIXIE CLOG NOTES Editor: Bill Morales

637 Cardinal Lane Prattville, AL 36067

Published Quarterly Official Publication of

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AZ* ARIZONA FOLLOW THE SUN

Editor: Kay Davis 4651 N. Calle Llanura Tucson, AZ 85745

(Subscriptions)

CA* THE CLOG-A-GRAM

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6950 Long Valley Spur Castroville, CA 93612

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CA* THE HILLBILLY HERALD

John King Editor:

19622 Ronald Ave. Torrance, CA 90503

Published Quarterly Official Publication of

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CO* CLOG . . ORADO

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FL* FOOTNOTES

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LA* THE GATOR GAZETTE

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MN* GOPHER TALES

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(New Association)

MO* MISSOURI CLOG, COUNCIL NEWS Editors: Mary Miller & Gail Sare

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Kansas City, MO 64133

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SC* SCCC TIMES

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TX* THE TEXAS CLOGGER

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1339 Blue Teal Court

Southlake, TX 76092

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WI* C.A.W. NEWSLETTER

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Marion Lewis 1414 Diamond Court

Sun Prairie, WI 53590

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Editors: Larry & Pat Ott &

Pete & Lin Peter 3622 Taylor Blvd.

Louisville, KY 40215 Published Bi-Monthly

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TX* SQUARE & ROUND DANCE NEWS OF SAN ANTONIO

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National Newsletters/or Assoc.

ACA* RISE & SHINE REVIEW

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C.L.O.G.

FLOP EARED MULE Editor: Foreman Heard

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Official Publication of National Clog. & Hoedown Council

THE DOUBLE TOE TIMES

Editor: Bobbie Adams

P.O. Box 1004

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Published Monthly Subscription

NCHC*

Page 17

Letters from Big Piney

Editors Note: We are delighted to print a letter from A. Nonemus in this issue, and hope he continues. with the correspondence. Long time Double Toe Times readers may remember his letters about Skeester Dancing in two 1984 issues, and his letters to Foreman Heard, which have been printed occasionally in The Flop Eared Mule. We visited A. and Aunt Sadie and Uncle Eb in Big Piney this past summer. Since this Editor is allergic to insect stings, we had to wait in the car while A. finished tending his bee boxes and then when we arrived at Aunt Sadie and Uncle Eb's farm, they had gone fishing. They keep an old aquarium on the back porch filled with minnows and as we examined Aunt Sadie's lovely quilts, they returned with a fresh stock of fishing minnows and a big string of pan fish. Aunt Sadie's corn bread, sliced yellow tomatoes and fresh fried fish was the best meal of our whole trip!

dere edeter bobie dubbley towed papper - Aunt Sadie sed to say howdie an wen are yew comin to visit agin. Big Piney is pert neer all batten down fer winter an them sumer folkes has all gone bak to Flordy. we got most of owr farwood cut an stackt, Aunt Sadie mayd me cut extry cawz the woolley caterpiler wuz thikcoated this yeer. I got me som nice work heppin them sumer folkes wintrize theer sumer places - yew no dreenin the water outen the pipes an sutch. this yeer theys a bunch wot will pay me to chek on theer places threw the winter so i got my snow chanes owt fer the ole truk. we allreddy got a few snow flaks but it dint stik. hit gits dark so earllie now. mye cabin is in the vallee bowst haf way tween town and Aunt Sadie an Uncle Ebs farm an mos evenins i stop bye jest to chek on them and bring wood inta the hous an then Aunt Sadie fickses me super suppur, shes a cawshun, she an Uncle Eb jest jaw at one anothur in fun all the time, they had drug owt the dominoes an wen Uncle Eb beet hher Aunt Sadie commenct to hollerin so lowd the blue tick houn begun howlin an we all lafft till owr sides wur hurtin. Aunt Sadie has her qwiltin fraym up in her big ole kitchen an me an Uncle Eb hepped her roll it to a new sektion. shes doin a purty log cabin this tyme. she done sold enuf qwilts last sumer to keep em good this winter an som ladie in noo yorke has ordurd three more for afore crissmas. wel edetur bobie Aunt Sadie is a sendin yew som of them tomatoe presarves yew lik so mutch an a big bag of hickry nuts. we all enjoyd the box of oranges yew sent but Aunt Sadie jest cant git over that yew pickd them in yur own bak yard. dont seem fitten she sed fer things to keep on growin in winter. ur fren A. Nonemus

pee ess weuns are havin a danse ever othur week down at the grange hall with onlie Big Piney folkes. Uncle Eb plays his dobro reel good, hit shore is fun, even mye brother Deebers girl Letty - yew member her the one with all the la te da airs who don got abov her raisin gits owt an danses, she goes over to E Town and gits her hairs curled afore evry danse, i shurely dont know wye she duz after won danse hit all comes a fallin down in her eyes. A. Page 18

INSTRUCTORS DIRECTORY

We've added Nebraska and Idaho this month making a total of <u>47</u> States represented in our Directory! Only Connecticut, Wyoming and Hawali are missing. If anyone knows of a Clogger in these three States, please let us know.

We were very pleasantly surprised when we received our first INTERNATIONAL listing from Judy Bos, West Germany. We hope that perhaps our subscribing Instructors in Japan, England, Australia, Nova Scotia, Canada and Sweden will consider listing in the Directory, especially now that currency exchange rates are more favorable. We will credit the balance remaining on your subscription toward a one-year Directory listing. Write for information.

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