

The Magazine of Clogging Since 1983

DOUBLETOE

TIMES

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March 2014

CLOGGING Builds Bridges



Pat Dennis and her students at Pat's Clogging Studio in Springfield, Missouri celebrate traditional and modern clogging and Irish dance



DOUBLETOE

March 2014



footprint

Spring Forward

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www.doubletoe.com

Spring is a time for some of the biggest workshop events of the season and coordinators are not only preparing for this year's events but looking at talent for future events.

I have noticed some trends from my own experience as a workshop organizer and from others who put on events. Choosing your staff is one of the most difficult parts of running an event. Very few events have the luxury of an unlimited budget and most are careful to ensure that the bills can be paid. The risk in putting on an event can be huge.

There is no question. Most instructors dream of being asked to teach at a regional or national event. Most organizers like to offer opportunities to up and coming instructors. Keep in mind though, that an invitation to be an introductory instructor is not an automatic guarantee that you will have a spot each year. Don't take it personal if those who put on events give someone else the same opportunity they gave you. Most of them started that way. It doesn't mean they are mad or don't like you anymore. They saw the drive and talent in you to offer you a shot in the first place with a giving heart and hope for your future as an instructor. Make them proud by taking that exposure they gave you to step up your game.

Also, organizers are keenly aware of their audience. When we suddenly get identical emails from a half dozen people all saying "So and so' is a great teacher and you really need to have them at your event," often times, the campaign was organized by "So and so" and I have had some folks apologize later, saying they were asked to send that email. Trust me, we all look for talent and it will rise to the top and sell you.

Being frank, if slots are open at most events, organizers offer them first to those who have supported the event through their own attendance and by bringing their dancers. I have had instructors tell me "It is my dream to teach at this workshop," when they have never even attended on their own, nor have any of their dancers.

Programs and accreditations will help you gain knowledge and networking, but you have to understand the importance of being a part of the community and playing well with others. When a famous musician does an album of themselves "and friends" they are just that... friends. Musicians could line up around the block upset that they weren't asked and considering their talent greater (which it may well be), but the choice comes down to who produces the product. Who wouldn't like to give all of their friends free admittance, a hotel room, meals, travel or pay to attend an event they all enjoy? It's a balancing act for sure.

Some may think I'm stepping on toes, and I apologize for any offense taken, but if your Spring grass is greener, people will notice. Give it time, water it, nurture it. Don't rush it and don't blame others if it doesn't grow as fast as you think it should. Stay in the sunshine and see what happens!

Happy Clogging! Jeff Driggs, Editor

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WORLD OF CLOGGING

Clogging & Dance Workshops & C.C.A. Qualifying Competitions

Memorial Day Weekend May 23-25, 2014

TWO GREAT EVENTS! ONE AWESOME WEEKEND
Workshops, Seminars, Evening Fun Dances
Friday and Saturday

featuring a great staff of national instructors

Scotty Bilz, GA • Jeff Driggs, WV
Joel Harrison, NE • Naomi Pyle, IN
Trevor DeWitt, IN • Morgan Hudson, KY
Sheryl Baker, MN • Judy Waymouth, ONT
Kelly & Kenneth Fithen, KY • Jamie Vincent, KY
plus more of your favorite clogging instructors!

ALL DANCE LEVELS - bigger floors and halls!

Clogging & Dance Competitions Saturday & Sunday



all events at
CoCo Key Resort/Convention Center
(formerly the Radisson/Crowne Plaza) Great hotel accommodations, All levels of clogging, Indoor water park inside the hotel! Only minutes from Kings Island Theme Park! Discounted Theme Park Tickets Available!

For info, email worldofclogging@aol.com
call Hanna at (716) 725-8415 or visit

www.worldofclogging.com





Calendar of Clogging Events

The Double Toe Times lists clogging events as a free service to the clogging community.

Events are listed by date and category and are recognized by the following symbols:

(W) = Workshop, (C) = Competition, (D) = Dance Only, (T) = Training Seminar (P) = Performance, Exhibitions or Concert
Submitting an event is easy... just visit the Double Toe Times website at www.doubletoe.com and click on "Events."

You may also email doubletoetimes@aol.com with the title "Clogging Event." Call or email today to advertise!

Workshops

March 2014

Mar 6-8, 2014

Smoky Mountain Encore
(W,C,P)
(CCA)
Gatlinburg, TN
Inst: TBA
Gatlinburg Convention Center
Info: Lynne Ogle
(865) 675-1185
ccalynne@aol.com
smokymountainencore.com

Mar 8, 2014

Diablo Mountain Cloggers
March Madness Workshop
& Dance (W)
California
Info: Lois Elling
lois.elling@pacbell.net

Mar 14-15, 2014

34th Annual TCC Rally
(W)
Waco, TX
Waco Convention Center
Instructors: Dustin Stephan,
Brandon Norris and Rebecca
Lee Plus your favorite Texas
instructors!
Info:
www.texas-clogging.com

Mar 14-16, 2014

25th Storm King Clog
Camp (W)
North Brisbane,
Queensland Australia
YMCA Camp Warreawee
Info: Edith Sandy
sandy@spiderweb.com.au
Jenny Neal
djneal2@hotmail.com
cloggingaustralia.com

Mar 15, 2014

Mason Dixon Spring
Stomp (W)
Westminster, Maryland
Inst: Morgan Hudson
Portico St. Johns Catholic
Church
carrollcountycloggers.com
Info Diane Gehret
(410) 259-8864
dianegehret@gmail.com
Lynn Grassi
(410) 428-6992
lynngrassi@verizon.net

Mar 15, 2014

Gulf Coast Spring Fling
"One Day Clogging
Workshop" (W)
Ft. Myers, Florida
Riverside Community
Center - Hardwood Floor!
Info:
cloggetrc@yahoo.com
[gulfoastcloggers
.weebly.com](http://gulfoastcloggers.weebly.com)

Mar 21-22, 2014

Possum Trot
Clogging Workshop (W)
Oxnard, California
Courtyard by Marriott
Inst: Scotty Bilz, Jeff Driggs,
Missy Shinoski, Michele Millier-
Hill, Cricket Ester
possumtrotca.net

April 2014

Apr 3-5, 2014

Northeast Clogging
Convention and
Competition (W,C)
Manchester, NH
Inst: TBA
Radisson Hotel
Info: Beth Kendall
802-439-3349
freewebs.com/neccc
bkendall@tops-tele.com

Apr 4-5, 2014

City Slicker Stomp (W,C)
Independence, Missouri
Inst: TBA
Hartman Conf. Center
Info: Missy Shinoski
816-443-3030
kloghop@sbcglobal.net
cityslickerstomp.info

Apr 10-12, 2014

Nickel City Clogging
Festival (W)
Buffalo, NY
Inst: Scotty Bilz, Jeff Driggs,
Naomi Pyle, Missy Shinoski,
Chip Summey & more TBA
Adam's Mark Buffalo
Info: Linda Haley
(716) 537-9662
wnyca.com

Apr 11-12, 2014

27th Annual Indiana River
Cloggers POWWOW (W)
Merritt Island, FL
Inst: Diana Allen, Debbie
Claxton, Jamie Conn, Greg
Dionne, Matt Koziuk, Anne
Lanier, Jeff Wood
Kiwanas Island
Info: Sandy Smallwood
(321) 631-5104
Bob Howard
(321) 452-6757
indianrivercloggers.org

Apr 25-27, 2014

31st Annual Northern
California Clogging
Association Convention
Modesto, CA
Guest Inst: TBA
Info:
www.ncca-inc.com

Apr 26, 2014

Clogging in the Natural
State (W)
Mountain Home, AR
Ramada Inn Conventional Hall
Instructor: Stacy McWethy-
Knoop
Info: Kathy Wilson
(870) 243-8113
[dancetymestudio@
gmail.com](mailto:dancetymestudio@gmail.com)
Leona Miller
arclogger@suddenlink.net

Apr 25-26, 2014

Swing Into Spring
Clogging Workshop (W)
Lake Cumberland, KY
Lake Cumberland State
Park
Inst: Scotty Bilz, Trevor DeWitt,
Jeff Driggs, Fonda Hill
Info: Trevor DeWitt
(317) 670-8934
trevor@clogdancing.com
lakecumberlandworkshop.info

May 2014

May 3, 2014

Mississippi Clogging
Council Mini Workshop(W)
Meridian, MS
Lauderdale Cloggers
Studio
Info: Angie Miller
[president@
msclogextravaganza.com](mailto:president@msclogextravaganza.com)

May 23-26, 2014

Memorial Weekend
Workshop (W)
Elum, WA
Circle 8 Ranch
Instructor: Anne Mills
Info: Jeri Staheli
(425) 353-0656
www.countrycloggers.org

May 23-25, 2013

World of Clogging
Workshop & Dance
Championships (W,C)
Cincinnati, OH
Instructors Scotty Bilz, Jeff
Driggs, Joel Harrison, Naomi
Pyle
& more TBA
Radisson Cincinnati North
Info: Jeff Driggs
or Hanna Healy
(304) 776-9571
worldofclogging@aol.com
worldofclogging.com

June 2014

Jun 19-21, 2014

BYU Cougar Clogging
Classic (W)
Provo, UT
Inst: TBA
Info: 801-422-4851
[http://ce.byu.edu/cw/
dancecamps/clogging.cfm](http://http://ce.byu.edu/cw/dancecamps/clogging.cfm)

Jun 19-22, 2014

ECTA Clogging
Convention (W)
Suhl, Germany
Inst: TBA
Info: ecta.de

Jun 20-22, 2014

19th ACA (Australian
Clogging Association
National Clogging
Convention (W)
Marrara/Darwin, Northern
Territory Australia
Guest Instructor: Shane Gruber
USA
Info: Jenny Neal
convenordarwin@gmail.com
cloggingaustralia.com

Jun 25-28, 2014

61st National Square
Dance Convention (W)
Little Rock, AR
Inst: TBA
Statehouse Convention
Center
63nsdc.com

July 2014

Jul 2014

Mississippi Clogging
Council Mini Workshop (W)
Amory, MS
hosted by Country
Cloggers
Info: Angie Miller
[president@
msclogextravaganza.com](mailto:president@msclogextravaganza.com)

Jul 18-19, 2013

Double Toe Jam (W,P)
Waco, TX
Inst: TBA
Waco Convention Center
Info: info@doubletoejam.org
doubletoejam.org

August 2014

Aug 15-16, 2014

Sunshine State
Clogging Jamboree (W)
Daytona Beach, FL
Instructors: TBA
Info: Jeff Wood
850-386-1263
wood@talstar.com
Naomi Pyle
(812) 579-6979
Naomi_p@sbcglobal.net

Aug 15-16, 2014

Mississippi Clogging
Extravaganza (W)
Brookhaven, MS
Instructors: TBA
Info: msclogextravaganza.com

Aug 29-31, 2014

28th Annual Kick Off (W)
Tacoma, WA
Instructors: Barry Welch, Anne
Mills, Matt Ellinger, plus 9
Western Regional Instructors
Info: Anne Mills
(360) 710-1260
annemills121@comcast.net

September 2014

Sep 5-6, 2014

Florida Clogging Council
State Convention (W)
Melbourne, FL
Eau Gallie Civic Center
Instructors TBA
Info:
Floridacloggingcouncil.org

Sep 5-6, 2014

Clogging & Folk Festival
(WP)
Mountain View, AR
Inst: TBA
Info: 870-269-3851
ozarkfolkcenter.com

Sep 12-14, 2014

New Zealand Clogging
Association
18th National Clogging
Convention (W)
Nelson, New Zealand
Brightwater Public Hall
Inst: Dell Sutcliffe
nzclogging.webs.com

Sep 13-14, 2014

Cloghop 2014 (W)
Renegade Quicksteppers
25th Anniversary
Celebration
Leinfelden, Germany
Walter-Schweizer
Kulturforum
Inst: Jeff Driggs, Shane Gruber
Info:
www.quicksteppers.de

Sep 19-20, 2014

Fontana Clogging
Jamboree (WP)
Fontana Village, NC
Inst: Jeff Driggs, Naomi Pyle,
Scotty Bilz, Chip Summey, Barry
Welch, CJ Tate
Fontana Village Resort
Info: Jeff Driggs
(304) 776-9571
ccajeff@aol.com
Naomi Pyle
(812) 579-6979
Naomi_p@sbcglobal.net
fontanaworkshop.com

October 2014

Oct 18, 2014

OktoberClogFest
Workshop (WP)
Nashville, IN
Inst: Jeff Driggs, Naomi Pyle &
more TBA
Seasons Resort &
Conference Center
Info: Naomi Pyle
(812) 579-6979
Naomi_p@sbcglobal.net

November 2014

Nov 14-16, 2014

Hickory Hoedown (W,C)
Hickory, NC
Info: AJ & Jill Kirby
Hickory Metro Conv. Ctr.
(828) 396-2052
[simscountrycloggers@
yahoo.com](mailto:simscountrycloggers@yahoo.com)
clognc.com

Nov 26-29, 2014

28th Annual C.L.O.G.
National Clogging
Convention (W)
Thanksgiving Weekend
Location TBA
Info: David & Susan
Phillips
(678) 889-4355
clog@clog.org
clog.org

Competitions

For more information on sanctioned competitions, visit the major sanctioning organization's websites at:

ACHF = America's Clogging Hall of Fame
achflog.com
CCA = Clogging Champions of America
ccaclog.com
NCHC = National Clogging and Hoedown Championships
clog.org
CAD = Cadence
clogcadence.com

March 2014

Mar 7, 2014

Smoky Mountain Encore
(C)
(CCA)
Gatlinburg, TN
Gatlinburg Conv. Center
Info: Lynne Ogle
(865) 805-7025
ccalynne@aol.com

Mar 15-16, 2014

South Carolina Clogging
Council Workshops and
Competition (W,C)
(ACHF)
Location TBA
Info: Dianne Loftin
(864) 277-0553
dloftin01@gmail.com

Mar 22, 2014

Winter Clogging
Invitational (C)
(NCHC)
Saluda, NC
Info: Chip Summey
Ncjcs@aol.com

Mar 28-29, 2014
Tennessee Clogging
Classic
(CCA)
Kingsport, TN
Marriott Meadowview
Resort/Convention Center
Info: Sherry Cox
(423) 817-3014
coxsherry@gmail.com
Shannon Glass
(423) 817-1781
glasssound@aol.com
Terry Glass
glasst@planet.com

Mar 30, 2014
Northeast Clogging
Convention and
Competition (W,C)
(NCHC)
Nashua, NH
Info: Beth Kendall
(802) 439-3349
Info: Brian Tucker
btucker730@aol.com
www.freewebs.com/necc

April 2014
Apr 5, 2014
Southern Junction
Clogging Championships (C)
(ACHF)
Williamston, SC
Williamston Municipal Ctr
Info: Gwen Davis
(864) 299-8601
gwen@
southernjunctioncloggers.
com

Apr 4-5, 2014
City Slicker Stomp
Competition (C)
(NCHC)
Independence, MO
Info: Missy Shinoski
kloghop@sbcglobal.net
CitySlickerStomp.Info

Apr 25, 2014
ACHF Annual Meeting
Maggie Valley, NC
Comfort Inn – Maggie
Valley
Info: Dianne Loftin
(864) 277-0553
dloftin01@gmail.com

Apr 26, 2014
Clogfest
(CCA)
Brevard, NC
Brevard Music Center
Info: Rhonda or Blake
Wallen
(864) 814-0096
rwallen543@charter.net
Kevin Parries
(828) 687-8600
ccaakevin@aol.com

Apr 26, 2014
Stompin' Ground
Competition (C)
(ACHF)
Maggie Valley, NC
Stompin' Ground
Info: Dianne Loftin
(864) 277-0553
dloftin01@gmail.com
achfclog.com

May 2014
May 17, 2014
Dance Maytrix (C)
(CCA)
Gatlinburg, TN
Gatlinburg Convention
Center
Info: Matt Sexton
(423) 676-1305
mattsexton@
silhouettesinc.com
Lynne Ogle
(865) 805-7025
ccalynne@aol.com

May 17, 2014
Beach Blast (C)
(ACHF)
Rocky Point, NC
Cape Fear Middle School
Info: Jessica Larson
(910) 604-0879
missjessica@
dancerscornerstudio.com

May 23-25, 2013
World of Clogging
Workshop & Dance
Championships (W,C)
(CCA)
Cincinnati, OH
Radisson Cincinnati North
Info: Jeff Driggs
(304) 610-6254
worldofclogging@aol.com
worldofclogging.com

May 31, 2014
Mars Hill University
Championships (C)
(ACHF)
Mars Hill, NC
Moore Auditorium
Info: Danielle B. Plimpton
Bailey Mountain Cloggers
(828) 689-1113
dbuice@mhu.edu

June 2014
Jun 6-7, 2014
Big Horn Mountain
Showdown (C)
(NCHC)
Buffalo, WY
Info: Shanell Hatch
(307) 620-0282
shanellhatch@yahoo.com

Jun 7, 2014
The Power All Star
Challenge (C)
(NCHC & CAD)
Woodstock, GA
First Baptist Church of
Woodstock
Info: Ryan & Marci
Rickard
(770) 710-1152
ryanrickard@comcast.net
marci@
powertapsclogging.com

Jun 14, 2014
Grand Challenge of
Champions (C)
(NCHC)
Branson, MO
Info: David and Susan
Phillips
(678) 889-4355
gnccclg@gmail.com
www.gnccclg.webs.com

Jun 28, 2014
United We Dance
Clogging Championships
(C)
(CCA)
New Location - Cherokee,
NC
Cherokee Cultural Arts
Center
Info: Matt & Kelly Sexton
(423) 676-1305
DancExpCloggers@aol.
com

Jun 28, 2014
Carolina Fusion's Summer
Shindig (C)
(ACHF)
Lexington, NC
Edward C. Smith Civic
Center
Info: Stefanie Grubbs
(336) 918-6269
stefaniegrubbs@gmail.com

Jun 28, 2014
Judge's Training and
Director's Workshop (T)
(ACHF)
Lexington, NC
Edward C. Smith Civic
Center
Info: Jimmy Loveless
(301) 884-5830
jloveless@melwood.org

Jun 29, 2014
Explosion Clogging
Championships (C)
(NCHC)
New Location - Cherokee,
NC
Cherokee Cultural Arts
Center
Info: Matt & Kelly Sexton
(423) 676-1305
DancExpCloggers@aol.com

July 2014
Jul 18-19, 2014
Dieter's Beach Jam (C)
(CCA)
Myrtle Beach, SC
Info: Dieter Brown
(828) 273-3244
ccadieter@aol.com

Jul 18-20, 2014
Fusion Fest – Workshop
and Competition (W,C)
(ACHF)
Traditional Workshop and ACHF
Competition on Saturday
Contemporary Workshop and
ACHF Competition on Sunday
More details to be announced...
Info: Stefanie Grubbs
(336) 918-6269
stefaniegrubbs@gmail.com

Jul 26, 2014
R2k Clogging Invitational
(C)
(NCHC)
Clayton, GA
Info: Keith & Rhonda
Brady
(706) 892-6142
rhondakbrady@gmail.com
or Keith Brady
(706) 892-6116
jkeithbrady@gmail.com

Jul 26, 2014
Orange County Clogging
Competition (C)
(ACHF)
Event Indoor Location
TBA
Info: Allen & Kim Snow
(540) 222-6372
orangecloggersva@gmail.
com

Jul 26 & 27, 2014
Southwest U.S. Clogging
Championships (C)
(NCHC)
Scottsdale, AZ
Info: Matt & Colleen
Pearson
(925) 361-7105
azpride1@cox.net
www.azpride.com

August 2014
Aug 2, 2014
Summer Fest Competition
(C)
(ACHF)
Easley, SC
Easley High School
Info: Dianne Loftin
(864) 277-0553
dloftin01@gmail.com

Aug 16, 2014
CCA Bluegrass State (C)
(CCA)
Morehead, KY
Info: Scott & Dena Dobson
(812) 325-1794
sdobson@bluemarble.net

Aug 16, 2014
Wilson County Fair (C)
(NCHC)
Lebanon, TN
Info: Grace Pack
(615) 449-3821
gpack33@aol.com

Aug 23, 2014
Sound FX Clogging
Championships (C)
(ACHF)
Lincolnton, NC
James W. Warren Citizens
Center
Info: Dianne Loftin
(864) 277-0553
dloftin01@gmail.com
Quinn Stansell
(704) 418-8047
qstansell@carolina.rr.com

**September
2014**
Sep TBA, 2014
First Coast Classic (C)
(NCHC)
Jacksonville, FL
Info: Anne Lanier
(904) 705-8766
alanier821@aol.com

Sep 5-6, 2014
North Carolina Mountain
State Fair Clogging
Competition (C)
(ACHF)
Fletcher, NC
WNC Ag Center
Info: Dianne Loftin
(864) 277-0553
dloftin01@gmail.com
Sep 27, 2014
The Challenge (C)
(CCA)
Charlotte, NC
Info: Chip & Misty
Harrison
(704) 685-3268
tncelite@gmail.com

October 2014
Oct 18, 2014
Deep South Dance Off (C)
(CCA)
Georgia
Info: Heather Kohberger
(678) 245-2725
h.kohberger@gmail.com
Blake Dunn
(417) 598-2199

November 2014
Nov 1-2, 2014
Indiana Fall Classic
Clogging Championships
(C)
(CCA)
Columbus, IN
Clarion Hotel &
Conference Center
Info: Jeff Driggs
304-610-6254
ccajeff@aol.com
Naomi Pyle
812-343-3285
Naomi_p@sbcglobal.net
cloggingcontest.com

Nov 8, 2014
CCA Mountain Classic (C)
(CCA)
Columbus, NC
Info: Rhonda Wallen
(864) 814-0096
rwallen543@charter.net
Lynne Ogle
(865) 805-7025
ccalynne@aol.com

Don't see your event listed here?

Then let us know about it and we will list it here for free!
doubletoetimes@aol.com

Can't get enough clogging news?

Get daily clogging updates, news, photos, videos
and more on the Doubletoe Times Facebook Fan
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Times Magazine of Clogging"
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become fans!

Also on twitter.com/cloggingnews

www.doubletoe.com

Getting Clogging Down Pat

A Senior Magazine Editor Savannah Waszczuk works up a sweat while trying out clogging.

By Savannah Waszczuk, 417 Magazine, Springfield, MO
Photos by Jessica Kennon Spencer

I spent the majority of my childhood in Seymour, Missouri, a small town east of Springfield. One of my favorite memories is the annual Seymour Apple Festival, and one of my earliest memories of the festival is watching a group of clog dancers perform on the town square. I still remember being amazed at how quickly the group moved. They performed the perfect clickity clackity song and dance.

On a recent cold wintry night, I found myself tying up a pair of clog shoes, so I could try out my own clickity clackity dance at **Pat's Clogging Studios** (711 W. Farm Rd. 84, Springfield, 417-833-4827, itap2.com). The studio is located off of a farm road in north Springfield, and it's easy to miss. There's no sign on the main road, so you have to look closely. After passing the space twice and making a panicked call to Pat Dennis, who owns the company with her husband, Kevin, I finally pulled in around 7 p.m.

On my walk to the door, I watched six red-faced adults inside the studio dance their hearts out, and I heard each of their steps landing in perfect unison with every beat. That's when I realized that as a clumsy girl who has sprained her ankle while walking across a wide-open gymnasium floor, clogging might be a challenge.

First, Dennis walked me through the basic moves. I learned how to double step, rock step, triple step and push step. With my new moves (kind of) memorized, I joined the rest of the dancers on the next dance.

Dennis put on some music, and I worked my very hardest to keep up with the other dancers and not make a

complete fool of myself or fall on the ground. I was able to do a lot of the very basic moves, and hearing my feet land at the same time as everyone else's was rewarding. As the music got faster, I got a little lost in the shuffle sometimes, but Dennis continued to help me along the way. We watched ourselves in a wall of mirrors, which Dennis says really helps, and I quickly learned clogging takes as much mental work as it does physical. I danced with the class for nearly an hour. We worked our feet and our legs as we kicked, tapped and moved from side to side and front to back, and we even worked our arms while doing hand work at times. And more than anything else, it seemed to be an aerobic exercise. I was sweaty and out of breath by the time we were finished.

Toward the end of the class, Dennis and the dancers taught me some fun old-timey dances, and it was a blast. You know those moments when you can't help but smile? That was me as, song after song, I scuffed and shuffled my feet across the wood floor smiling with each click of my heels. Clogging was not only a workout, it was truly an experience. I clogged my little heart out, and I can't wait to try it again.

More info: Pat's Clogging Studios offers clogging for all ages and skill levels and Irish dancing through Celtic Fire Irish Dance Company. More info at itap2.com





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Clogging's top competition teams shoot it out for national title honors at the Clogging Championships of America **SHOWDOWN!**

Each January, competitive clogging teams make their way to downtown Knoxville, Tennessee for the annual Clogging Champions of America Showdown of Champions, the pinnacle of accomplishment for modern clogging's highly percussive dancers.

This year's event brought teams from around the country to compete both traditional and modern competitive styles in two full days of categories that showcased both amateur and challenge level teams, duos and solo dancers.

At the end of the day, teams from Nebraska and Georgia took home the top honors, with Nebraska's "Tap This" team -- led by Joel Harrison -- winning an unprecedented fourth straight year.

The volunteer organization works through the year to coordinate the event, with regional qualifying competitions providing the finalists for the showdown.

According to the organization's website at www.ccaclog.com, Clogging Champions of America was formed in 1998 to generate more activity and interest in clogging and competition, to promote a spirit of fun and fellowship, and to make sure the beginner clogger will get to enjoy competing as much as the clogger who has been in it for years. The goal of C.C.A. is to create an atmosphere of spirited and sportsmanlike competition, and to provide more opportunities for cloggers within the competitive and entertainment realms. Competition, C.C.A. feels, is a healthy and entertaining part of clogging because it offers dancers the opportunity to travel to different locations -- meeting new clogging friends, step sharing, and supporting each other competitively.

At each Clogging Champions of America event, the top three scoring teams in each category and division of Challenge, including Junior and Senior, will qualify to dance at the Showdown of Champions.

In addition to crowning the showdown competition winners, a director and group of dancers are recognized for their contributions

(Continued on page 10)



National Champion Amateur Team - Tap Attack, NE



National Champion Junior Team - Synergy Jr., GA



National Champion Senior Team - Tap This, NE



ClogTube



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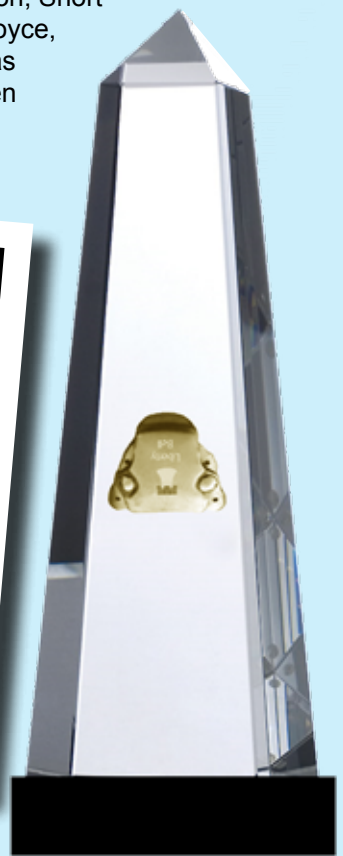
www.cloggingcontest.com or www.worldofclogging.com

Clogging Champions of America

The PULSE of Clogging



Amateur Female National Champion: Liza Genoble, Amateur Male National Champion: Aiden Little, Challenge Female National Champion: Kelly Joyce, Challenge Male National Champion: Drake Walls, Duo/Duet National Champions: Drake Walls and Allie Watson, Short Duo/Duet National Champions: Kirsten Curtin and Kelly Joyce, Choreographed Solo National Champion: Lauren Thomas To the right: A Cappella National Champion Stephen Auten Traditional Solo National Champion Shelby Gilkerson



CCA Showdown

(Continued from page 8)

to clogging through induction to the CCA All Pro Team. A committee receives nominations from judges at qualifying events and votes on their top picks. Once a dancer has been recognized for a period of time, they become an "All Pro Legend," opening up a spot for another dancer to be recognized. This year, the 2014 All Pro Director is Robyn Shields of Burlington, NC.

Kaylee Thomas of Berea, KY become an All Pro Legend.

The 2014 All Pro Team includes: Blaire Andrews; Greenville, SC, Kirsten Curtin; Bristol, TN, Brack Duncan; Winchester, KY, Kenneth Fithen; Winchester, KY, Halley Gainey; Gaffney, SC, Shelby Gilkerson; Paris, KY, Kami Graham; Gothenburg NE, Rebecca Griffin; Graham, NC, Brittany Griggs; Dawsonville, GA, Blake Krenk; Lincolnton, NE, Davi Owens; Pennington Gap, VA, Amanda Potts; Winchester, KY, Trenton Shields; Burlington, NC, Lauren Thomas; Berea, KY, Drake Walls; Bloomington, IN, Alexis Wilson; Gaffney, SC.

CCA also sponsors a youth leadership council to encourage dancers to work together with their peers from other teams to forge friendships, encourage each other and promote leadership skills. The group held its first retreat this past year at Fontana Village Resort in Western North Carolina, where they did team building exercises, discussed issues facing cloggers and took some well deserved time to relax and enjoy each other's time aside from clogging.

For more information on the Clogging Champions of America, visit www.ccaclog.com.



America's Clogging Hall of Fame Association

Stompin' Ground Maggie Valley, N.C.

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Sanctioned Events

<p>2014 Jan 18, 2014 Oak City Winter Invitational Louisburg, NC Seby B. Jones Performing Arts Center Info: Taylor Kopple (919) 413-6605 oakcitycloggers@gmail.com</p> <p>Feb 8-9, 2014 Capital City Clogging Classic Lexington, SC Lexington High School Info: Heather Barnhart (828) 320-9095 cccitycloggers@gmail.com</p> <p>Feb 22, 2014 ACHF Spring Meeting Fletcher, NC WNC Fairgrounds Info: Dianne Loftin (864) 277-0553 dloftin01@gmail.com</p> <p>Mar 15-16, 2014 South Carolina Clogging Council Workshops and Competition Location TBA Info: Dianne Loftin (864) 277-0553 dloftin01@gmail.com</p> <p>Apr 5, 2014 Southern Junction Clogging Championships Williamston, SC Williamston Municipal Center Info: Gwen Davis (864) 299-8601 gwen@ southernjunctioncloggers. com</p> <p>Apr 25, 2014 ACHF Annual Meeting Maggie Valley, NC Comfort Inn - Maggie Valley</p>	<p>Apr 26, 2014 Stompin' Ground Competition Maggie Valley, NC Stompin' Ground Info: Dianne Loftin (864) 277-0553 dloftin01@gmail.com</p> <p>May 17, 2014 Beach Blast Rocky Point, NC Cape Fear Middle School Info: Jessica Larson (910) 604-0879 missjessica@ dancerscornerstudio.com</p> <p>May 31, 2014 Mars Hill University Championships Mars Hill, NC Moore Auditorium Info: Danielle B. Plimpton Bailey Mountain Cloggers (828) 689-1113 dbuice@mhu.edu</p> <p>Jun 28, 2014 Carolina Fusion's Summer Shindig Lexington, NC Edward C. Smith Civic Center Info: Stefanie Grubbs (336) 918-6269 stefaniegrubbs@gmail. com</p> <p>Jun 28, 2014 Judge's Training and Director's Workshop Lexington, NC Edward C. Smith Civic Center Info: Jimmy Loveless (301) 884-5830 jloveless@melwood.org</p>	<p>Jul 18-20, 2014 Fusion Fest - Workshop and Competition Traditional Workshop and ACHF Competition on Saturday Contemporary Workshop and ACHF Competition on Sunday More details to be announced... Info: Stefanie Grubbs (336) 918-6269 stefaniegrubbs@gmail.com</p> <p>Aug 2, 2014 Summer Fest Competition Easley, SC Easley High School Info: Dianne Loftin (864) 277-0553 dloftin01@gmail.com</p> <p>Aug 23, 2014 Sound FX Clogging Championships Lincolnton, NC James W. Warren Citizens Center Info: Dianne Loftin (864) 277-0553 dloftin01@gmail.com Quinn Stansell (704) 418-8047 qstansell@carolina.rr.com</p> <p>Sep 5-6, 2014 North Carolina Mountain State Fair Clogging Competition Fletcher, NC WNC Ag Center Info: Dianne Loftin (864) 277-0553 dloftin01@gmail.com</p>
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www.achfclog.com

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Cloggers in the Spotlight

Texas Group Preserves the Art of the Dance

by Jo Anne Embleton

Jacksonville Daily Progress

RUSK, TEXAS — Scanning through songs on her laptop computer, instructor Patty Benda calls out titles to her class as she played clips of music for the opening set of a recent clogging session at the Rusk Civic Center.

At one point, “I’m Too Sexy,” a 1992 dance hit for the English trio Right Said Fred, blared from the laptop’s speakers.

Not missing a beat, Benda flashes a sassy smile at a visitor, saying, “See? You can clog to any kind of music!”

Clogging, writes Double Toe Times magazine editor Jeff Driggs, is “a truly American dance form that began in the Appalachian Mountains and now enjoys widespread popularity throughout the United States and the world.”

According to an article on the doubletoe.com website, “as the Appalachians were settled in the mid-1700s by the Irish, Scottish, English and Dutch-Germans, the folk dances of each area met and began to combine in an impromptu foot-tapping style, the beginning of clog dancing as we know it today.

“Accompanied by rousing fiddle and bluegrass music, clogging was a means of personal expression in a land of newfound freedoms,” Driggs said, explaining that clogging is done

in time with music, “to the downbeat, usually with the heel keeping rhythm.”

Clogging steps have been incorporated into square dance and line-dance; it also has been influenced over the years by the different cultures that have embraced it, according to Driggs.

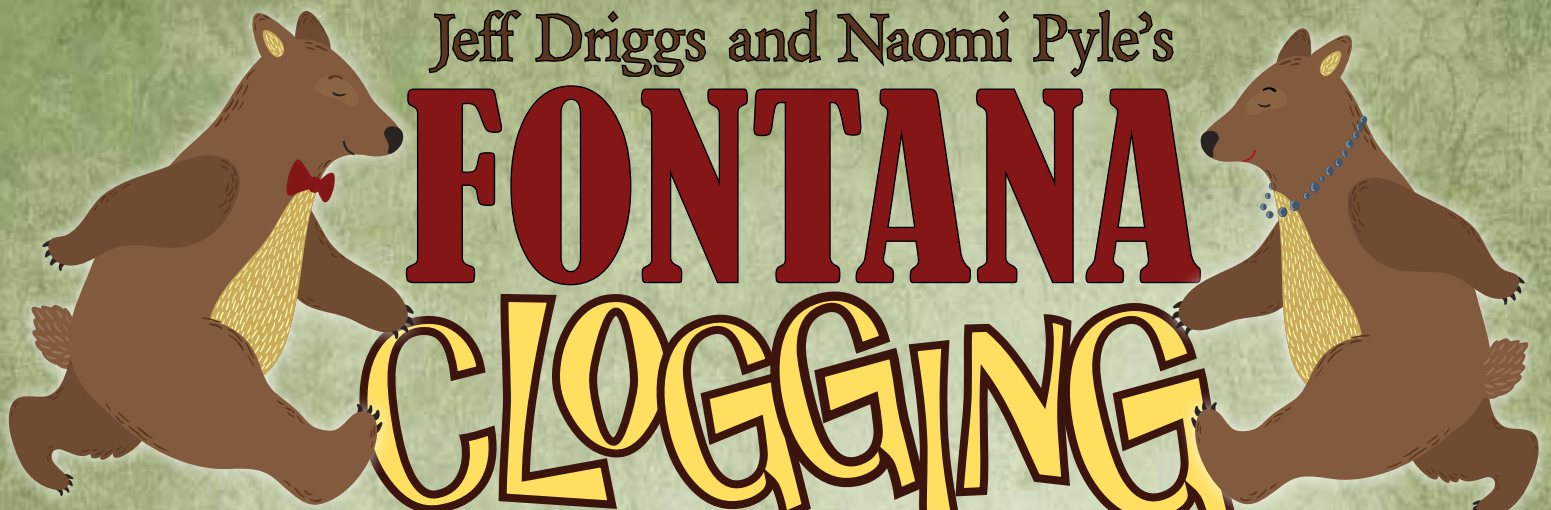
“New influences are creeping into the dance because of the popular culture,” he said. “Tap

(Continued on page 14)



Jeff Driggs and Naomi Pyle's

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www.fontanaworkshop.com

Texas Group Preserves Art of the Dance

(Continued from page 12)

dancing, Canadian Step Dancing, Irish Hard Shoe and even street dancing and hip-hop influences are being seen to bear on the style of steps and dances performed by cloggers today.”

In Texas, Appalachian-style clogging “was introduced to Texans in the early 1970s,” when Wade and Gloria Driver brought the dance to Houston, teaching steps they learned from “Big” John Walter in Alabama, according to the Texas Clogging Council website, and clogging eventually spread to Houston and San Antonio.

The local clogging group formed in the mid-1990s as a way for a group of Rusk State Hospital to line-dance for exercise during their lunch hour, but sitting in during a session, the camaraderie formed by members becomes quickly apparent to a visitor.

“It’s really about just being together,” said Peggy Huggins of Rusk, the group’s original instructor, explaining how members “progressed from doing line-dancing at work to dancing here, at night, for anybody” interested.

At one point, the group included about 45 people, recalled Rusk resident Theresa Jeffries,

who with Huggins and Mary Perkins of Alto, are the only original members of the dance group.

“After a break for the summer, not as many came back,” she recalled; not long after that the focus shifted to a new form of dance.

“Line-dancing was starting to go out of style,” Perkins said, as Jeffries added, “Peggy is the one who wanted to start clogging, and since she was our teacher, we started clogging!”

Laughing, Huggins explained, “Oh, we had line-danced until I was sick of it. I was so tired of it, and so I said, “Hey, y’all – do you think y’all might want to try clogging? Maybe we could do some See, I had learned (clogging from working with) 4-H kids – we had used clogging in a talent contest, so I had learned a little bit, just enough to kind of get us started.”

She “showed them what I knew,” then suggested the class consist of half line-dancing and half clogging,” she recalled.

“And we finally just pushed the line-dancing out, we just wanted to clog all the time, and we’ve been doing that ever since ‘96,” Huggins said.

Soon, the group began clogging at nursing homes “and things like that, and we’ve danced for our friends and our families,” even performing



at Six Flags one summer, Perkins said.

However, "we're just not a real big performance group," Jeffries added. "We mostly get together and exercise."

"Oh, it definitely helps keep our minds alive," Perkins said.

The group – primarily women, though "we always manage to have one man in the class at all times," Huggins said – gathers from 5:30-8 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays, and twice a year, travels to Waco to participate in weekend workshops, where they learn new steps and meet up with old friends.

"We've done this almost as long as we've been clogging (so) we've met a lot of people we've met through the years who also are cloggers," Huggins said, adding the next clogging meet-up is slated July 19-20.

Meanwhile, the group will continue to gather from places like Alto, Palestine, Grapeland, Jacksonville, Tennessee Colony and Rusk for their twice-a-week classes.

"Part of it is exercise, and part of it is the companionship," Benda said. "If you like music and you like to dance, clogging is good exercise."

Jeffries nodded. "We don't ever quit – we are going to keep going, no matter what," she said, as Huggins added, "We've been up and down – we've had as many as 40, then (attendance drops), but I've never seen anybody quit because they didn't like it."

Clogging is "good for the mind," Huggins added, and because it's not a form of exercise offered on a widespread scale, "when you work so hard at it, and you (begin mastering clogging), its' a really good feeling."

Photo 01 (from page 12)

Instructor Patty Benda, foreground, leads a recent clogging session at the Rusk Civic Center, calling out cues to a variety of songs, including rock-and-roll and gospel. Progress photo by Jo Anne Embleton

Photo 02

Cloggers get into the rhythm as they perform to a set of songs at the Rusk Civic Center. The group meets from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays, and is open to the public. Free lessons also are available, said instructor Patty Benda. Progress photo by Jo Anne Embleton

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First Time Novel Details World Of Competitive Square Dancing

Editor's Note: CLOG! is definitely an adult read and deals with adult themes and contains depictions that some readers may find disturbing.

It also contains a story line that gives a good description of the world of competition square dancing that is very much a way of life in Western Carolina.

By Gene Marrano

Clog! a first-time novel by Dan Smith," is not a book about plumbing," says the author, a long time journalist and publisher who recently retired from his co-ownership role at Valley Business Front in order to complete several books. Clog! is Smith's first novel; he's written a memoir and a children's book previously. The inspiration for Clog!, which is about a square dancing team, came from Smith's high school days in the hills of Western Carolina, where he attended a small school that had won three national square dancing championships. "This book is loosely based on what I saw there," said Smith.

The basic plot involves a high school football player, Eb McCourry, who transfers to a small school (Toe River) before his senior year. At Toe River he not only plays quarterback, drawing attention from local colleges (Smith himself played briefly in college before the injury bug hit him) but he also gets involved with the square dancing team. There the coach, Miss Lilly, introduces elements of clog dancing to the more traditional square dancing routines. That confounds some of the judges but it scores points on stage. The basic plot of Clog!, written in an easy to read, conversational style, is the buildup to a big square dancing competition where the main competition is a much bigger high



school from Asheville. There a car dealership owner is trying to buy the championship for his bratty, spoiled daughter, a member of the square dancing team but not the star – to her chagrin. Smith,

who cut his teeth locally in the newspaper business for several papers, said Clog! is his first novel, but "probably not my last." In fact he's more than 200 pages in to his second, a book about a retired college professor who falls for an internet dating scheme. Smith said it's a bit easier the second time around: "I am comforted to know it will not be more difficult." He launched Clog! formally at Hollins University earlier this week, also the home to the annual Roanoke Regional Writer's Conference (Jan. 24-25) that Smith stages every year. "This is a novel – it is not true, but it is based on things from my high school days," noted Smith. "Square dancing was a big deal – like wrestling at other schools." It's a coming of age story as well, complete with Eb's encounters with assorted girls as he

(Continued on page 18)

Naomi Pyle's




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Naomi Fleetwood-Pyle, 10720 E. Legal Tender Rd., Columbus, IN 47203

OktoberCLOGfest Registration Form

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CLOG! Novel

(Continued from page 16)

looks for his true love. The square dancing coach is based on a real person – the “best coach,” Smith ever knew in any sport, and yes in Western Carolina square dancing was a sport. With his dad dead and his mother “a little crazy,” Eb leaves home and finds solace at a home for children – and at Toe River High School, where he finds as much joy in square dancing as he does in football perhaps. “He’s trying to establish an identity,” said Smith, “and he immediately falls in love with square dancing. He learns to be a leader and he grows up.”

Smith admits that the dream girl he conjured up for Eb, Lizetta, is based on his own fantasy. Call it poetic license reserved for an author. Smith wrote the bulk of Clog! in about a month and honed it over the past two years, picking up the pace when he left his editor/co-owner position at Valley Business Front behind. “The story has been on the edge for years.” It’s available at createspace.com, at amazon.com and in Kindle e-book form. “It’s a fun read,” promises Smith.

Q&A with Author Mary Crockett and CLOG! Author Dan Smith (from goodreads.com)

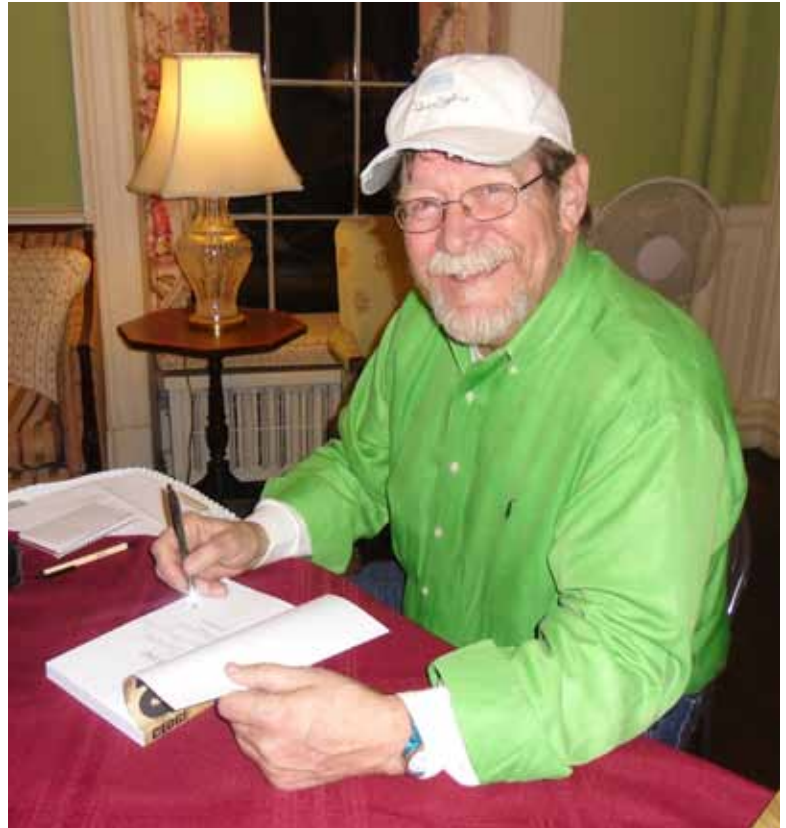
Mary Crockett: I love the idea of writing a book about all the political complexities surrounding a square dance competition in the 1960s. It’s almost an Appalachian take on the television series Glee! Where did the idea for CLOG! start for you?

Dan Smith: I went to a tiny high school in the mountains of North Carolina (350 students, 4 grades) in the early 1960s and Cranberry High had a legendary square dance team and coach, Kay Wilkins. It had won three national titles, eight state championships and owned the Old Smoky Trophy at the Mountain Youth Jamboree in Asheville. I was not a dancer, but watched this team perform and saw what magic Miss Kay created.

In 2011, Cara Modisett of Blue Ridge Country Magazine asked me to write a piece about Miss Kay and the team (“The Ballad of Miss Kay”) and

it won an international magazine award. Shortly thereafter, I began to consider writing a novel based on the school, the county, the team, the times and a young boy who gets caught up in it all. CLOG! emerged in first draft after 28 days of writing. Ten re-writes later, it became a book.

MC: How much does the book have to do with



square dancing?

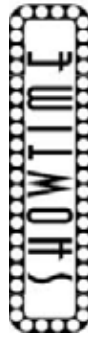
DS: It is centered around both the square dance team and the football team, both of which are chasing championships and share athletes. At Cranberry, all of Miss Kay’s dancers were on other athletic teams—she recruited them. She wore them out, too. Best coach I ever saw in any sport (and I was a sportswriter for 17 years).

MC: How did you research the square dance details, sequences and storyline?

DS: This was tough because I knew so little about square dancing and clogging before the book. I started by talking in some depth to former Cranberry High dancers, including Janice Watson Greene, who shows up in the book as a flashy sophomore dancer. I gathered a group of them at a class reunion and listened as they reminisced.

(Continued on page 20)

31st Annual National Clogging Convention Thanksgiving Weekend



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CLOG! Novel

(Continued from page 18)

I also talked to members of the Blacksburg Hoorah Cloggers. Like so many people who are centered on a certain activity, the dancers were knowledgeable and enthusiastic.

MC: How close is the story to what really happened?

DS: Not very. It is a novel, based upon people and events, some of which have been combined, all of whom have been changed to the point that they would be difficult to identify by even those who know some of the players. The actual events were the seed for fiction and this book is, in no way, meant to portray actual history. But it's a lot of fun.

MC: CLOG! is really about people as much as it is about dancing, though. What are you really getting at in this novel?

DS: The story, basically, is the coming of age of Eb McCourry, a high school senior whose father has died and whose family is having considerable difficulty getting by. He winds up in a children's home in the far back mountains, looking for an identity. That part of the story is the coming of age of a young man.

The other point is a cultural assault on these hill people from outside when a rich auto dealer in Asheville buys a competition team for the huge high school there, brings in a ballet star and studio owner from New York and pursues the Old Smoky Trophy at the Mountain Youth Jamboree in Asheville because his daughter, a dancer, wants it for her bedroom and what this spoiled child wants, she gets.

MC: You chose to publish CLOG! independently. Why?

DS: I could have gone the traditional route and actually began to pursue it. But I was not happy with the agents and publishers and their suggestions for wholesale changes to the story, so I decided I'd go indy.

I have written and published five books, three

of them indys. That is a very strong wave in publishing, as it has been in recent years in music.

Writers are taking control of their work and their profits—which are considerably higher without several layers of middle people. Sales of e-books, which didn't even exist a few years ago, can go through the roof as many independents have discovered. Exposure in magazines like DoubleToe: The Magazine of Clogging is vital and gets the book directly to the audience that would most appreciate it.

I have close friends who are involved in both traditional and independent publishing of their works and I can honestly say the happiest group—and the one with the least stress—is the independents.



ABOUT THE BOOK

Eb McCourry's final year at a tiny Appalachian school is rushing at a frantic pace toward showdowns on all fronts. Living in a children's home, he's struggling for an identity at his new school and finds it with the football and square dance teams and with an

English teacher who forces him to write better than he thought he could. But not all is well. Eb faces a gun, two pedophiles, a sociopathic teammate, growing pressure to win and a budding love affair with the lovely and brilliant Lizetta. His college football scholarship and the doors it can open are at stake and he must grow up quickly.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dan Smith is a 2010 inductee into the Virginia Communications Hall of Fame and founding editor of FRONT Magazine. A journalist since 1964, he has won awards in every significant journalistic discipline and was Virginia Business Journalist of the Year 2005. Other awards are for business ethics, environmental education, environmental journalism, support of the arts and the first (2009) Perry F. Kendig Literary Award, given by the Arts Council of the Blue Ridge. He is an active community volunteer and member of a number of boards of directors. He is an award-winning public radio essayist, a freelance writer/photographer and the founder of the Roanoke Regional Writers Conference. This is his fifth book, and his first novel. He has two children and two grandchildren and lives in Roanoke, VA.

The Ballad of Miss Kay

The story of the square dance mentor who inspired the new novel **CLOG!** by Dance Smith

By Dan Smith

There are champions and there are championships. In Avery County, N.C., they're both about square dancing and it's just about the best you've ever seen anywhere.

If Kay Burleson Wilkins had been a football coach, there'd be a stadium and a lot of kids named after her. If she'd coached in Texas, there'd be a town called Miss Kay, Texas. In Oklahoma, they'd have named oil wells for her and in Knoxville, Tenn., she'd have rated at least a street, same as famous Lady-Vols basketball coach Pat Summitt.

But she didn't coach football. She coached square dancing. She coached about as well as anyone ever has, but outside a poor, isolated county in northwest North Carolina, she's not only unknown, and she was never paid as a coach. Not a penny. More's the pity.

The numbers tell part of the story: two national championships, eight state championships, 19 out of 25 wins of the Old Smokey trophy at the Mountain Youth Jamboree in Asheville, N.C. (enough to retire it), a slew of state fair titles and scores of other, lesser trophies.

But there's a legacy beyond championships that Miss Kay left her county. It is one of good citizens who learned about the world outside, adjusted to it, mastered it and became functioning parts of its

successes, all with a cool, self-assured, cultured ease, not lessons you'd learn trying to run over a 300-pound tackle.

Avery County had never made much of an impact before Miss Kay. In fact, the only other team state championship of any kind by any Avery school

during her tenure at Cranberry High, and later at the consolidated Avery County High, came when Newland High and its seven-foot-four-inch center Tommy Burleson (who was destined for a national championship at N.C. State and stardom as a pro) won a state basketball title in the late 1960s.

Kay Wilkins – forever known as Miss Kay, a southern recognition of both respect and familiarity – was born in Plumtree, N.C., on Sept. 20, 1920, daughter of the owner of C.W. Burleson & Company, a general store that today, she says, "would be called a shopping center." Her mother

taught in a one-room schoolhouse, "standing on crates to diagram sentences."

Her father called square dances on Saturday nights and young Kay watched and learned. At one point she entered a Charleston dance contest, finished second and was hooked on dance.

Miss Kay returned home to Avery County in 1948 after college at Montreat near Asheville,

(Continued on page 22)



Ballad of Miss Kay

(Continued from page 21)

Appalachian State Teachers College in Boone and an early-career adventure in New York – where she went to modeling school and worked for the Navy and Avon at Rockefeller Center. At Rockefeller Center, she often watched the Rockettes practice and that made a lasting impression (the legend in Avery County is that she was a Rockette; she laughs at that). She signed on as a teacher at Cranberry High School in 1948, instantly took over the basketball team and started a square dance team to compete in the Mountain Youth Jamboree in Asheville. By 1951, the team had won its first Old Smokey trophy and the string was on.

MISS KAY married Bill Wilkins, a salesman for a mica company in Mitchell County, just south of Avery, about that time.

Poverty has been the rule in Avery County through most of its history. There was barely enough money for football and basketball at a high school so poor it only had one team color: green.

Miss Kay, showing a grit and determination that would mark her dance, basketball and majorette teams for the next 36 years, made do. She was

never paid for any coaching she did. She was Cranberry High School's bookkeeper, as well, and wasn't paid for that, either.

"That's the way it was then," she says now. "Never got a penny from the school or the county." Were men coaches paid? "Oh, sure."

She recruited the school's athletes to dance, convincing the boys that this was just as much a part of their manhood as running into other boys with a football in hand. The cheerleaders, majorettes and girls' basketball players were less difficult to convince and soon she had a team, one with athletic grace, toughness and endurance and a cultural background that made teaching steps easy.

Costumes, a major part of any dance competition, were designed initially by Miss Kay and made in home economics classes. Later, team members – boys and girls – suggested designs.

"Some of those costumes looked like spacesuits," says Norma Ann Buchanan, class of '59. Most didn't, though, and the team became known as original in dress and routine.

Miss Kay designed routines that were simple and sophisticated in the same instant, eventually wowing crowds all over the country.

Her teams became so fundamentally sound





that when Miss Kay determined in the few minutes before a performance that changes needed to be made, the new steps were inserted with little difficulty.

She recalls that shortly after video technology became available,

won a national title, 12 state titles and many other awards. Recently, her cloggers competed at the North Carolina Folk Festival for the first time since Miss Kay retired.

Shadoin is a retired competitive professional ballroom dancer who says that when she began teaching at Avery High, her goal was to emulate Miss Kay. It shows in her routines and costume designs.

Shadoin followed Debbie Oaks Ward in the late 1990s as the primary coach of square dancing in Avery County. Ward, who also danced for Miss Kay and had a smooth team at Riverside Elementary (K-8) from the mid-1970s to 1998. Her team often accompanied the team Shadoin was on in 1976-'78.

THERE ARE SEVERAL STYLES of square dancing and the Avery teams have made their
(Continued on page 24)

Asheville's Lee Edwards High square dance team members shot footage of Cranberry practicing before a competition and "the next year, when we saw them again, they had several of our figures in their routine.

"We won anyway."

The competition between Lee Edwards and Cranberry was intense over the years – big school vs. small school – but Cranberry dominated.

Miss Kay's legacy was on display this past summer during the school's All-Class Reunion when an impromptu square dance team of 60-somethings came down out of the audience in the school's gym at the behest of Teresa Shadoin, a teacher carrying on in the Miss Kay tradition, and entertained fellow former students. They looked like they'd been practicing for a year.

Teresa Shadoin, who graduated from Avery County High in 1978 after four years of dancing for Miss Kay, has become a national championship square dance coach herself, continuing the tradition in Avery County at several schools and with independent teams. Her teams began at Avery High School and have trickled down into the middle and elementary school grades. Like Miss Kay's, Shadoin's teams have



Story originally appear January 1, 2010 in Blue Ridge Country.

Photos: Left: The 1960 team from Cranberry High School – front row, left to right: Jackie Shomaker Burleson, Betty Estep, Linda Greene Avery, Gail Townsend, Linda Avery Shumate, Betty Hughes Robbins, Helen Thomas, Susan Tate. Back row: Bill Tate, Skip Clark, Russell Greer, Sherril Rominger, unidentified, Freddie Dickerson, Vernon Pittman, Gary Townsend.

Above Left: David Tate and Freida Julian, from the 1966 team, pose with

Above Right: The student is the teacher -- Teresa Shadoin, left, carries on Miss Kay's legacy with her own students today. Photo by Dan Smith.

Ballad of Miss Kay

(Continued from page 23)

name primarily in the “smooth” version, though they are also accomplished in clog and buck dancing, as well as Western dance. Smooth descends from English and Scottish country dance.

David Vance (class of 1958), Avery County’s fire marshal these days and a guy who still serves as

learning going on with Miss Kay’s teams than square dance steps.

“These were kids who’d never been out of the county,” she says today. “They were learning culture, dancing and eating dinner at country clubs, entertaining people. They learned how to act, how to speak, how to behave in public.” Miss Kay “was strict. You had to get it right,” says Shadoin.

“My mother once told me to make sure my first impression on students was the one I wanted,”

says Miss Kay, “because it would be the one they would always remember.”

Norma Jean Buchanan Puckett, who danced in 1959 for Miss Kay at Cranberry, says she had to get her grades up before she could compete.

“The first two years, I didn’t make it,” she says. But the carrot worked and Norma Jean got some of the benefits: “I was shy, but she stressed putting a smile on and keeping it on. It brought me out...

She was the best coach I ever saw.”

“She was a Vince Lombardi,” says Johnny Garland, who is retired from an airline and was a Cranberry football player before making the square dance team. “I had run away from home at 15 and she made high school bearable for me. She was the best; really, really good.”

“If you don’t discipline, you don’t earn respect,” says Miss Kay. “I never made a threat I didn’t

Old-timers put on a show at a Cranberry High School reunion. Photo by Dan Smith.



a square dance caller, says, “I had this Baptist background, so I didn’t know anything about dancing until I got to high school... It was a complex activity. We’d have 68 different calls in a 10- to 12-minute routine and you danced once in a competition, so you had to get it right. You have to have rhythm, an understanding of the music and a listening base with your left foot. You glide and slide to keep your balance.”

Teresa Shadoin insists there was a lot more

intend to carry out.”

Johnny was being raised at Grandfather Home for Children in Avery County and Miss Kay “made sure people from the orphanage had money to eat on. She went in her pocket for it sometimes.”

Miss Kay went into her pocket often. “If I picked up the school bus to go to a competition and the gas tank wasn’t full, I had to fill it out of my pocket.”

“When I first tried out – in front of the whole school – I was scared to death,” says Betty Hughes Robbins, who danced in 1960 and ’61. “[Miss Kay] became a role model to me in every sense. You know, she wouldn’t hold practice on Wednesday nights because she knew those old Baptists had prayer meeting Wednesdays. She just wouldn’t do it and people respected that.”

“Yes,” says Mary Lou Coffey Griffin (1958), and “no matter where we were, we went to church on Sunday as a team. In hotels, girls were on one side, boys on the other.”

“Daddy wouldn’t let me play basketball,” says Vickie Young Suddreth (1967), “because I’d be out late, but I got to dance and we were out late, too. With Miss Kay, the expectations were always very high and we didn’t want to disappoint her. She wasn’t touchy-feely, but she was patient and persistent... and compassionate.”

Norma Ann Buchanan (who is not related to Norma Jean Buchanan) says, “I’ll tell you what made it work for her: she was fearless.

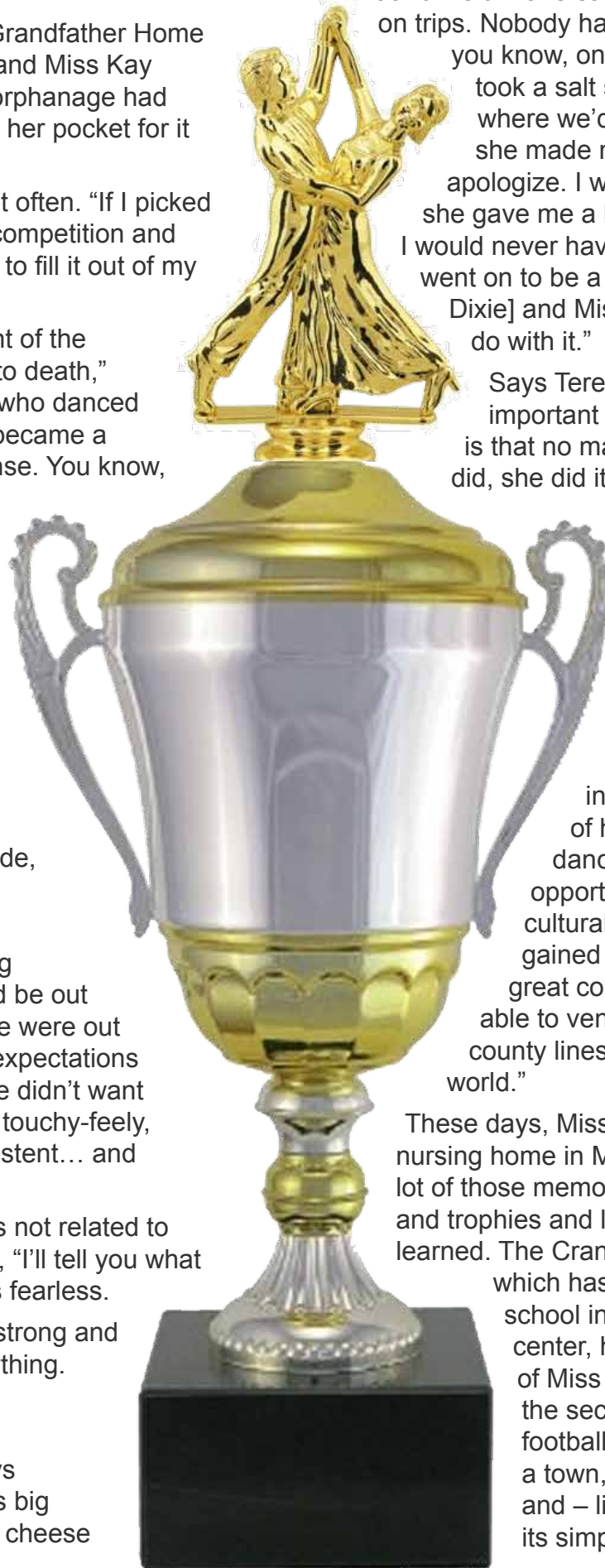
“Her confidence was always strong and she was not scared to try anything. Even in failure, she’d change something grand.”

And she was resourceful, says Buchanan. “Miss Kay had this big mayonnaise jar with pimiento cheese

in it and we’d make sandwiches from it on trips. Nobody had any money, but, you know, once in Spruce Pine, I took a salt shaker from a place where we’d performed and she made me take it back and apologize. I was humiliated, but she gave me a kind of confidence I would never have had otherwise. I went on to be a beauty queen [Miss Dixie] and Miss Kay had a lot to do with it.”

Says Teresa Shadoin: “The important thing to remember is that no matter what Miss Kay did, she did it with style, grace and determination. Whoever she coached was a champion on the court, the dance floor, the field. She taught us about life and made all of us better individuals. Because of her, many former dancers had travel opportunities, learned new cultural experiences and gained self-assurance. With great confidence, we were able to venture beyond the county lines and experience the world.”

These days, Miss Kay lives in a nursing home in Marion, N.C., with a lot of those memories of dance teams and trophies and lessons taught and learned. The Cranberrian Corporation, which has turned the old high school into a community center, has made a shrine of Miss Kay’s old room on the second floor. It’s not a football stadium, a street or a town, but it’s Miss Kay’s and – like her – elegant in its simplicity.





SYNERGY

DOWN ON THE CORNER

Beginner

Revival

Time: 2:40

Boy

Choreo By: Sarah Darby Hughes

Address: 433 Canton Rd # 105, Cumming, GA 30040

Email: soleimpulsedance@gmail.com

www.soleimpulsedancestudio.com

Artist: Creedence Clearwater

Album: Willie and the Poor

Phone: (470) 255-0747

Sequence: HOLD 8 Counts-A-B-C-B-C-A-C-1/2 A-B-C-C-C

Part A (INTRO):

Jazz Square S S S S Stomp DB Up DS RS
L R(xif) L R L R R R LR

****Turn ¼ LEFT on each jazz square to do step facing each wall****

****Note: When doing half of section A, Turn Jazz Square ½ turn to face back****

PART B (VERSE):

Turkey Run Heel Toe S Heel Toe S S Stomp DS RS Kick
L L R L L R L R L RL R

Two Rocking Chairs DS Kick DS RS DB S Kick DS RS
L R R LR L R R R LR

Basic Heel Dig DS RS Heel S RS Heel S RS DS RS
L RL R L RL R L RL R LR

****Turkey Run repeats on both left and right foot****

PART C (CHORUS):

Step Over S S S RS S S S RS
L(xif) R L RL R(xif) L R LR

Tap Your Feet Jump Out Tap Tap Jump Out Tap Tap Tap
R(xif)L R/L R R R R(xif)L L L L

Easy Level taught by Jamie Vincent

Biker Chick by Jo Dee Messina

Wait 16 beats, ABCABCB

Part A

Heel Step - dbl hl step, RS, hl step, stomp dbl dbl RS

L R L RL R L R L R LR

2 Kick Around - dbl kick, dbl RS (turn 1/4 each time you dbl kick)

L R R LR

(Repeat Heel Step and 2 Kick Around to back wall)

2 Long Basic Turn - dbl RS RS RS, stomp dbl dbl RS (turn 1/2 on stomp)

L RL RL RL R L R L R

Heel Lifts - step left lift lift, step lift lift lift

L R

4 Basics - dbl RS, dbl RS, dbl RS, dbl RS (turn 1/4 to Left on each, and double clap on each)

L R R L L R R L

Part B

Vine - dbl dbl dbl dbl dbl dbl RS

L R L R L R L R

Out In Up & Fancy Double - out in hop dbl RS, dbl dbl RS RS (turn 1/2 to left)

L R L L R L L

Repeat Vine and Out In Up to back wall

Drag/Chain - dbl drag step, dbl drag step, dbl RS RS RS, dbl drag step, dbl drag step, dbl RS RS RS

L L R L L R L R R R R R R L R R L R L L L

Cowboy Stomp - dbl dbl dbl stomp hop, dbl dbl dbl RS

L R L R L R L R L

Biker Chick - Heel hold Step hold step pivot step pivot

L L L L

Part C - (1st time - repeat 2 times) (2nd time - repeat 3 times)

Walk Out - ball step ball step ball step ball step ball step ball step ball step

L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R

Aint Nobody Got Time For That

Artist – Blush

Level – Intermediate –

Choreo – Paul Melville (Paulj.Melville@gmail.com)

Intro – 16 Beats

Sequence – Intro, A, B, Chorus, C, A, B, Chorus, C, Bridge, Chorus, C

Part A

Turkey Slide – Hop Heel Flap Step Hop Heel Step Toe Ball Heel Step *Repeat on Opposite Feet*
L R R L R L L R R R R

Around The World - Dbl Back Around Heel Step Flange RS
L R R R RL L RL

Hop toe - Dbl Hop Toe Hop Toe Hop Toe Hop Toe Up * Repeat Sequence *
L L R R L L R R L L

Part B

Hip Hop Breakdown #1

Chorus

Double Double Up - Hop Dbl Dbl Up Hop Scuff Up Hop Scuff Up Touch
L R R R R L L R R

Paint Brush – Dbl Hop Heel Hop Heel Hop Toe Ball Heel Step Brush Up Flap Down
L L R L R L R R L L R R R R

Heel Replaces - Dbl Hop Heel Replace Down Dbl Hop Heel Replace Down
L RL RL R R LR LR L

Walk It Out - Hop Heel Step Hop Heel Step Hop Heel Step Hop Heel Step *Repeat Sequence *
L R L R L R L R L R L R

Part C

Double Doubles – 3 On your right, 3 On your left, Then alternate between right and left and end with a hop toe ball down.

Repeat

Bridge

Hip Hop Breakdown #2

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