

C.L.O.G. Today™

Official Newsletter of the National Clogging Leaders Organization

C.L.O.G.
27th ANNUAL CONVENTION
Nashville, Tennessee
THANKSGIVING WEEKEND 2010



By: Barbara Elko

It was awesome to be part of the reopening of the Gaylord Hotel, which was forced to shut down operations after the devastating flood of 2010. The amount of work that went into getting the hotel operating is indescribable. The resilient residents of Tennessee continue to rebuild their lives. They shared their tragic story with you, but they spent more time talking about the progress since the flood. County music stars continue to raise money for the flood victims, Garth Brooks, the latest is scheduled to do several shows, and is donating all the proceeds to flood relief. The strength and the joint efforts of the Tennesseans is to be admired, and copied.

The conventions country - hee haw theme became obvious Thursday evening as cloggers lined up for the parade of states, nations, and colors. Dancers dressed in checked shirts, denim skirts, bib jeans, and straw hats marched around the massive hotel, delighting onlookers. The state of Florida won the best banner award, it was outstanding, oranges with lights. Tennessee took first place for most attending dancers.



Florida's Banner



The Clampetts

Darlene Coddington (Elly May), Mark Wilson (Jed), and Barbara Elko (Granny) won for best costumes, dressed as the Beverly Hillbillies Clampett Family. The fun dance that followed was full of energy and laughter.

Friday and Saturday workshops offered everything, basic, intermediate 1, 2, 3, advanced, beginners from scratch, traditional, instructors favorites, and numerous seminars. Four new instructors were introduced, Birgit Blizzard, Chip and Misty Harrison, and young Andrew Perry. I had the opportunity to attend one of

Andrew Perry's teaches. He was poised, thorough, and fun! Andrew is only 18 years old so I expect we will see a lot more of him. Morgan Hudson "rubber legs" returned for his second national and had everyone wondering how does he do that? Stacy McWethy absent from the national for a few years, was back and armed with some insanely fast bluegrass. Welcome back Stacy! Chip Summey, Scotty Bitz, Matt Sexton, and Naomi Pyle teamed up and taught Up on the Ridge. Lets just say what happen in Tennessee stays in Tennessee. Shane Gruber had a few proposals during his teach of Little White Church. To all the instructors job well done!

If you missed this years national you missed the most unbelievable showcase. Producers Naomi Pyle and Chip Summey have probably been offered a Hollywood contract. Singing, dancing, slap stick humor, skits this showcase had it all! Having amazing singing performances were Shannon Glass, Sherry Cox, Matt Sexton, Lynnette White, Naomi Pyle, and Berry Welch. Scotty Bitz had his singing debut let's just say it was memorable. Did I mention he was topless? Speaking of attire Dieter Brown's dress and crinoline was a site not soon forgotten. Just ask the Arkansas Travelers who performed a skit including yodeling while Dieter danced behind them. Naomi Pyle's Rycenderella skit was absolutely fantastic! That's Good, That's Bad skit performed by Jeff Driggs and Shane Gruber was done to perfection. Entertaining the audience with their clogging skills were the Southern Bells, Georgia's Dance Explosion, Tennessee Hoedowners, Dean and Dave, Delta Rhythm, Momentum, CC Express Elem. and Clogging Thunder. Brittany Martin a very talented clogger did an extraordinary job of dancing to Sideways.



Dieter and the Arkansas Travelers



Some of the Tennessee crew

Thank you, David and Susan Phillips and the executive committee, Conrad Cooper and the clog board of directors, and all the volunteers who spend countless hours putting the conventions together for our pleasure.

Next year the convention will be held in Grapevine Texas. Make plans now to attend. Ya'll know they do things BIG in Texas!



Brittany Martin (Rt) and her partner

CLOG Today

CLOG Today is published bi-monthly by

CLOG - The National Clogging Leaders Organization, Inc.

David & Susan Phillips, Executive Directors
 2986 Mill Park Court
 Dacula GA USA 30019
 Phone: (678) 889-4355 • Fax: (603) 925-0967
 clog@clog.org • www.clog.org

Send address changes to CLOG, Inc.

President/Board Chair:	Conrad Cooper
Vice President:	Garland Steele
Secretary:	Marie Lovelace
Treasurer/CFO:	David Nimmo
Members:	Barb Guenette, Janice Hanzel, Missy Shinoski, Chip Summey

CLOG Today (formerly known as the *Flop-Eared Mule*) is the official newsletter for the National Clogging Leaders Organization, Inc., published by cloggers, for cloggers, in an effort to share clogging news and to promote and preserve the Clogging dance form.

CLOG members receive a copy of the *CLOG Today* newsletter as a benefit of CLOG membership. CLOG offers two membership classes: Gold (\$30.00 per year) and Silver (\$25.00 per year), US funds only.

CLOG Today Staff

Editor:	Pam Smiley 800 Hammershire Rd Owings Mills, Md 21117 410-504-5775 clogrpm@comcast.net
Layout:	Mary Snyder, NJ

CLOG encourages all cloggers and clogging enthusiasts to contribute to the content of the newsletter. Please send news items, advertising, comments, and/or suggestions to the editor.

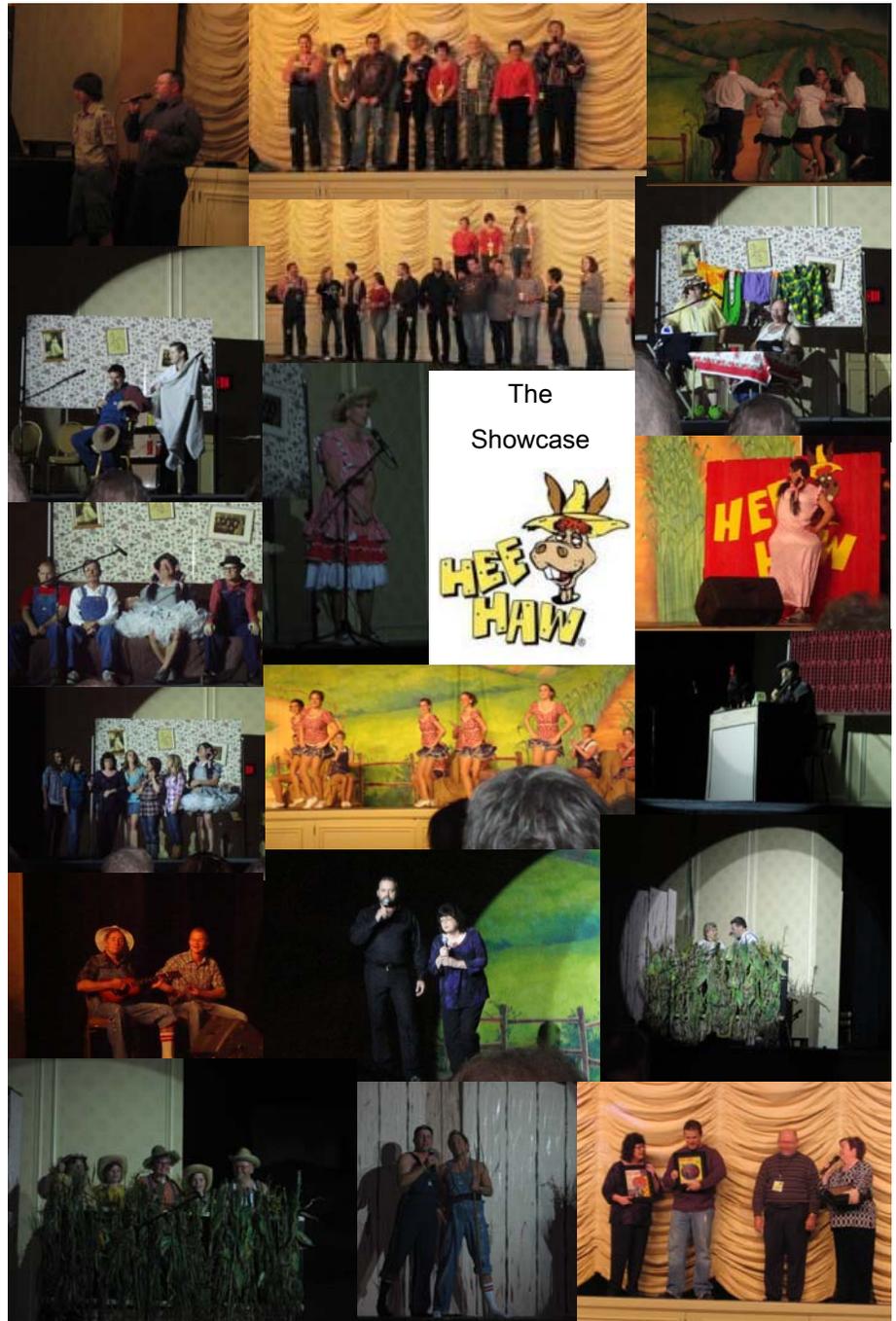
High-quality images and documents in Microsoft Word (attached to e-mail) are preferred. Original photos and documents sent via postal mail are also accepted (please send SASE for materials you wish to be returned).

Issue:	Deadline:
January-February	December 15
March-April	February 15
May-June	April 15
July-August	June 15
September-October	August 15
November-December	October 15

Advertising rates are available online or by contacting the editor.

The opinions in this newsletter do not necessarily represent those of the editor, staff, CLOG, or the Board of Directors. *CLOG Today* reserves the right to use, edit, or withhold from publication any material submitted.

Copyright © 2007 by CLOG, Inc.



The Showcase

- "I had a great time at the Convention and it was sooo well done. The show on Saturday was spectacular. Thanks so much and thanks for all your hard work." Maxine Young, VT
- "Ellis and I want to tell you how much we enjoyed the convention. Thanks you so much for all you do - we enjoy knowing both of you so much. The whole heehaw theme was so much fun and the show was GREAT!" Ellis and Audrey Perry, NC
- "Again, thank you very much for making it possible for me to be in attendance at this year's CLOG convention. I had a terrific time. I heard many, many nice compliments about the convention, teaching staff, and the show. ", Janice Hanzel, CA
- "Thanks for another great convention! I love the Opryland Hotel." Kathy Moore, VA
- Thanks ever so much for having me on staff this year at the Nashville convention. Mark and I had a great time. I am sure you are very tired today and will need a few days to re-coup. I hope you enjoy the upcoming holiday season! All the best, Judy Waymouth, ON, Canada

Something for everyone.....



"The convention was my first and I had a wonderful time. The instructors were outstanding. Thank you. "
Linda Lazaroff, VT

"Had a blast, so looking forward to next year!"
Gina Taylor, KY



"Had a Great time!!!
THANKS for all the hard work ya'll do!!! :)"
Gina Broyles, AR



Keith and I wanted to let you know how much we enjoyed Nationals this year! As always you and the staff done an exceptional job. If you ever need anything, let us know. Thanks for everything, Keith and Rhonda Brady, GA



Aloha David and Susan, The Thanksgiving event was outstanding! We had a ball and hated to see it end... Many thanks,
Karl Hedberg, HI



I want to thank you for all the hard work you and many others did to put Nashville together. I had a great time, as did many others. The new instructors were a nice addition. ... See ya'll in Texas!, Thanks Again,
Barbara Elko, PA



"Had an awesome time as usual!!!",
Micki Clemons, MI

"Fun times as always" Reina Beaven, IN

Thanks for another great convention. Barb Guenette, BC,

"Had a FANTASTIC TIME as always!! Thank you Thank you Thank you!!!"
Debbie Byrd, TN

"We had a blast! Thanks for all the hard work",
Joy Bailey, GA



I'd like to say thanks for inviting me to be an introductory instructor at the Nationals this year. It was so much fun teaching and doing a seminar and just being a part of it all. What a great time. I'd also like to say what a wonderful convention it was. My dancers all loved it and found it to be very well organized with lots of great dances taught. The show was fantastic and brought back memories of watching Hee Haw a few years ago (OK maybe more than a few years ago). Congratulations on a good job!
Birgit Blizzard, AB, Canada

I just wanted to write and thank you for a fantastic week in Nashville. The clogging community is the most welcoming and friendly group of people I've ever met. It didn't take long to feel right at home and a part of the family. Andrew Perry, NY



On The Beat...

News from around the clogging world

Clogging in Michigan:

In 1993 my wife Lynda and I had a chance to interview Duane and Berdella Root of Grand Blanc, Mi. Duane and Berdella are credited with bringing clogging into Michigan in a big way. Most of the clogging instructors in Michigan can thank the Roots for beginning their upline. What a fitting name for a tree full of branches(cloggers) that covers Michigan. .

Duane and Berdella were involved in modern square dancing at this time.

Bob: "Where were you and what were you doing when you saw clogging for the first time?"

Berdella: "Mostly we saw it at square dances, wouldn't you say so Duane? We really saw it in Memphis, TN at a square dance convention in 1980. They had an introduction to clogging. We walked in as it was finishing. The floor just bounced. We begged our teacher to teach us but she didn't know how. So she never taught it."

Bob: When you first saw all the people clogging and heard all that noise and saw the action, did it make your blood race?"

Duane: "It was exciting."

Berdella: When I was little a neighbors girl would do what they called jigging. I wanted to do it. It no doubt was a form of clogging. My dad played the banjo at square dances and I would go. No one hired a babysitter. The first time I square danced I was three years old and was held by my brother. At that convention we met Sheila Popwell who wrote the book, 'Everything You Want to Know About Clogging Except How You Got Talked Into it in The First Place.' There were a few sheets of terminology passes out but not anywhere near enough for everybody. A square dance friend that was there grabbed one, handed it to me and said, "When you learn how to do this then show me. On the way home from the convention I told Duane that I was going to learn to clog. If I had known how hard it was to get started back then I would never have had the nerve to start. But here we are. It's unbelievable to see what has happened. But, I had always wanted it."

Duane: "We never had a teacher. It had come from worksheets and workshops."

Berdella: "When we got some people in our basement we tried to do the footwork. We couldn't get the body language. I couldn't bend my knees. So we found Christy Olson in Kalamazoo whose father was a square dance caller. We called her to see if she would help us. She consented and we drove three hours to Kalamazoo. We spent over an hour with her and then drove back. But I could bend my knees. We messed with it in the summer. We had a little song called Candy Loo that eight of us spent two hours a week all summer learning. We wanted to do it at a New Years after party for the square dance club. We had one gal, they were new to the area, from Milford(never met her before)come to clog. Marlene, our square dance leader gave her our phone number and she called. She said, "I want to learn to clog". I told her, "I don't know how to clog. We're just trying to figure it out." She said, "I don't care, I'm coming." After going around and around with her I succumbed and said "OK, you can come but you realize that I don't know anything about clogging." Again she said, "I don't care, I'm coming." They were the only couple who stayed with us until they moved to Florida.

One day we did the O'Donnel Square Dance Club and afterwards everyone said they wanted us to teach them. A couple that danced with us had a hall and told us that the hall was available on Sundays if we wanted to use it. We told him that we didn't have any equipment and he said, "Well, you can use mine if you want to." Duane said to him, "I think we can do it." I replied warily, "I don't think so!"

Duane: "She set the date and on the way to the hall she said, "We have no business doing this." For two or three years she wrote all the classes out word for word. Everything she was to do."

Berdella: "Now we write nothing down. We go to class and I'll say, "What will we do tonight?" And Duane will say, "I don't know." We would watch someone who was having difficulty and help them."

Duane: We try to teach one routine a month depending on the difficulty. We play it by ear. Sometimes a song can be taught in two weeks, but again, the same song for different people will take five weeks.



L to R, Lois Jackson, Lake Odessa: Velda Rosenberger, Lowell, (in back of) Bob Warner, Lake Odessa: Shelley Hudson, Ada: Sharon Epley, Charlotte: Kathy Coleman, Stanton: Mike Rohrbacher, Lake Odessa

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

At the International Clogging Convention we met a woman from Australia. We're going over there and they'll put us up. They were glad to meet us because a lot of our songs have been sent to Australia."

Bob: "How did you pick the name Katy Did for you group?"

Berdella: "A science teacher was telling about how perfect the Katy Did is. But that's not why the group is called by that name. My name, when I was young, was called Katy. Our daughter, who spent four years in the art department at U of M, drew our logo."

Bob: "How has your teaching changed?"

Berdella: "No two classes are alike. Sometimes you want to pull your hair out. We used to teach songs all of the time. Now what we do is what I call "Hash". We put on a record and teach steps. We start with the basics to get the rhythm. Then a chain, then the basics for a time. Next I might add a triple. Hash is any music you can slow down and keep a good beat. I cue off the top of my head. The reason we feel it is good is that it gives a lot of drill. It teaches, but none of us knows what's next. We drill all the steps that are easy to know, all the basic combination. We have a list and by Christmas, starting in September, we should get through it. If they can get through these without thinking, when they go into another level it is easier."

When we first started to clog it took eight hours to get to a workshop. It was in Dayton, OH put on by the National Hoedown Council. It blew our minds because of all the new sounds. All the syncopated steps."

Bob: "Are you teaching Canadian Step dancing?"

Berdella: "No, because it's too hard on the legs and it all looks the same. Most of us deal with adult dancers and it is very exhausting. If we do put in that type of step we don't mention where it came from."

Duane and Berdella have since retired from instructing and live up east of Reed City, MI. I see them once in a great while.

This article submitted by Bob Warner CCI of Lake Odessa, MI. A certified clogging instructor through C.L.O.G. of Atlanta, GA. Bob and his wife Lynda instruct and direct the Thunder Floor Cloggers, a high energy clogging group based in their barn at 1417 Johnson St., Lake Odessa, MI and also teach Appalachian square dance. For information call 1-616-374-8205 or email fcloggers@att.net.



MARILYN HANSEN SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

It has been the privilege of CCI to develop a scholarship program honoring Marilyn Hansen, CCI, who was a clogging instructor from California and an asset to the clogging world.

Apply for the [Marilyn Hanson Scholarship](#)
TODAY!!

This grant includes a tuition scholarship for the Certified Clogging Instructor Program for 2 ses-

Letters of Application will be accepted January 1, 2011 through April 30, 2011. Applicants will be notified by May 31, 2011.

Deadline is April 30, 2011
See clog@clog.org for more details

CLOG Welcomes New Members

We would like to welcome the following 8 new members to CLOG:

Charlotte Parish, AR
Jerry Roethe, TN
Sissy Hemphill, TN
Shirley McSavaney, ON Canada
Elena Serykh, MO
Larry Zilliox, NY
Lucille Kean, ON, Canada
Jean Moffett, TX
John Musser, WA
Anneke Henny, BC, Canada
Jeri Scranton, SD
Carolynne Wilkinson, TX
Kea Miles, IL
Beth McCreedy, ON Canada
Carol Cody, NC
Daniel King, AB, Canada
Linda Mills, AB, Canada
Davi-Danne Owens, VA
Billie Jo Burnette, TN

For information on joining CLOG and the benefits of becoming a member, fill out and send in the application in this issue or at our web site at www.clog.org, or contact us at 678-889-4355 or clog@clog.org.

New CCI Designations!!



Tennessee also saw some of our CCI candidates complete their testing and debut their teaching as a final test. These are the newest candidates that received their CCI designations:



Some of the new CCI designates & staff recognized on stage.

- Andrew Perry
- Buster Green
- Rhonda Brady
- Gina Broyles
- Colleen Zurbrigg
- Tammy Potter
- Joyce Guthrie



Rhonda Brady teaching for her designation test.



CERTIFIED CLOGGING INSTRUCTOR PROGRAM

A Professional Designation Offered By
The National Clogging Leaders Organization, Inc.

THE ULTIMATE RECOGNITION AS A CLOGGING INSTRUCTOR

An application to the Certified Clogging Instructor (CCI) Program starts you on your way to becoming one of the best. You will join a select group of men and women who have made the ultimate commitment to excellence in clogging instruction, career advancement, and the ongoing pursuit of knowledge...having been rewarded in the process.

Founded by the National Clogging Leaders Organization, Inc. (CLOG) the CCI program is designed not only to further elevate professional standards and evaluate individual performance, but also to recognize and distinguish those who have reached the highest level of achievement in clogging instruction.

YOU SHOULD MAKE CCI YOUR IMMEDIATE GOAL IF:

- You are currently involved with clogging instruction.
- You are interested in becoming a clogging instructor.
- You are interested in obtaining more knowledge about clogging

Calling all CCI Members --

Please double check your email address in the registry on the website. If there is something that needs to be changed, please email cci@clog.org

If you don't respond, you will be placed on the INACTIVE CCI Registry. We want to have the most up to date CCI registry as we possibly can.



Upcoming Events

(see more listings at www.clog.org/clogtoday/)

February 19, 2011

GCLA Spring Workshop
Emory Thomas Auditorium
Dublin, GA
478-864-2714

February 26, 2011

Potomac Double Down
Battlefield High School
15000 Graduation Drive
Haymarket, VA

www.potomacdoubledown.com

February 26, 2011

Motor City Classic
Madison Place
Madison Heights, MI
Sam Gill 248-421-3173
clogteachr@wowway.com

www.dancingwithsam.com/workshop

March 11 & 12, 2011

TCC's Holiday in Heaven
Waco Convention Center
Waco, TX

Ellen Lane 903-738-9611
rally2011@gmail.com

March 17-19, 2011

Smoky Mountain Encore
Gatlinburg Convention Center
Gatlinburg, Tennessee
Lynne Ogle 865-675-1185

smokymtnencore@aol.com

<http://www.smokymountainencore.com>

March 25 & 26, 2011

IPCA Illinois Classic Clogging Workshop
ISU Bone Student Center
Normal, IL

Judy Gagnon 309-261-0007
clogdog73@yahoo.com

www.illinoiscllogging.com

March 26, 2011

Mason-Dixon Stomp
Westminster, MD
Mark Wilson

clogger@supernet.com

April 1 & 2, 2011

City Slicker Stomp Workshop
Hilton Garden Inn
Independence, MO

Missy Shinoski 816-443-3030

kloghop@sbcglobal.net

www.CitySlickerStomp.Info

Have an event you want listed here?
Send the information to:
CLOGToday@clog.org

April 30, 2011

Clogging in the Natural State
Mountain Home, AR
Kathy Wilson 870-243-8113
dancetymestudio@yahoo.com

April 29 & 30, 2011

Swing into Spring
Lake Cumberland State Park
Jamestown, KY

Trevor DeWitt 317-670-8934
Trevor@clogdancing.com

www.lakecumberlandworkshop.info

April 29 & 30, 2011

CAW Jamboree
Evergreen Community Center
Oshkosh, WI

Jan Adams janadams@new.rr.com

www.ClogWi.com

May 27-28, 2011

World of Clogging Workshop
Crowne Plaza Cincinnati North
Cincinnati, OH

Jeff Driggs 304-776-9571

www.doubletoe.com

June 3-5, 2011

California Spectacular
Fresno, CA

Barry Welch 559-259-9904
doubledude@comcast.net

CaliforniaSpectacular.com

June 24 & 25, 2011

Renfro Valley Workshop
morganh@hotmail.com
Renfro Valley, KY

www.renfrovalley.com

July 16, 2011

Romp & Stomp
Salisbury Civic Center
Salisbury, NC

August 12-14, 2011

Sunshine State Jamboree
Hilton Oceanfront Resort
Daytona Beach, FL

Naomi Pyle 812-579-6979

Naomi_P@sbcglobal.net

August 26-28, 2011

Mississippi Clogging Extravaganza
Camp Wesley Pines
Gallman, MS

www.mscllogextravaganza.com

September 9-11, 2011

Folk Dance Festival
Ozark Folk Center State Park
Mt. View, AR

870-269-3851

www.ozarkfolkcenter.com

October 22, 2011

Oktober(Clog)Fest Workshop
The Seasons Lodge
Nashville, IN

Naomi Pyle 812-579-6979

www.oktoberfest.com

November 4 & 5, 2011

Frolic in the Fall
Lake Cumberland State Park
Jamestown, KY
Morgan Hudson 606-205-5648

November 19, 2011

Ohio Michigan Fall Festival
Common Space II
Toledo, Ohio
Rumblin' Rhythm Cloggers 419-559-6333
bad54@woh.rr.com

November 24-26, 2011

28th Annual National Clogging Convention
Gaylord Texan Hotel &
Convention Center

1501 Gaylord Trail, Grapevine, TX 76051

David and Susan Phillips
678-889-4355

www.clog.org/convention

July 4, 2012

National Independence Day Parade and
Clogger's Expo
Washington DC
www.cloggingexpo.com

Competitions

April 2, 2011

City Slicker Stomp NCHC Competition
Hilton Garden Inn
Independence, MO

Missy Shinoski 816-443-3030

kloghop@sbcglobal.net

www.CitySlickerStomp.Info

May 28-29, 2011

World of Clogging Competition
Crowne Plaza Cincinnati North
Cincinnati, OH

Jeff Driggs 304-776-9571

www.doubletoe.com

Check with event coordinators
to confirm event details!

C.L.O.G.
The National Clogging Organization, Inc.
Join the CLOG team

One-year CLOG Membership

Gold (instructors) \$30.00

Silver (dancer) \$25.00

Send the following info & check

Name Home Phone

Address Work Phone

City, State, Zip E-mail address

Clogging Group Membership

List membership in area, state, and/
or national clogging associations

To: **CLOG, Inc.**

2986 Mill Park Court

Dacula, GA 30019



David and Susan Phillips, Executive Directors
2986 Mill Park Court
Dacula, GA USA 30019

**28th Annual CLOG
National Convention ~
Grapevine, TX (Dallas/Ft. Worth) ~
November 24-26, 2011
Make Your Plans Now!**

Auxiliary Events:

Certified Clogging Instructor Training Session
~ Monday ~ Wednesday
Judges Training ~ Thursday
CCI Testing ~ Thursday

Pre-Convention Events:

Evening Dance ~ Wednesday
Open Teach Halls ~ Wednesday & Thursday
Dance Expose' ~ Thursday

Convention Events:

Parade of Colors ~ Thursday Evening
Evening Dancing ~ Thursday - Saturday
Workshops ~ Friday & Saturday
Seminars ~ Friday & Saturday
Exhibitions ~ Friday Evening
Showcase ~ Saturday Evening

Featuring:

20+ Premier Clogging Instructors
Early Registration & Member Discounts

Schedule tentative and subject to Change



Hotel Info:

Gaylord Texan Hotel & Convention Center
Reservations: 817-778-200
Address: 1501 Gaylord Trail, Grapevine, TX 76051
GROUP ROOM RATES
Single/Double/Triple/Quad occupancy rooms: \$99.00

Register Online at www.clog.org/convention
INFO: www.Clog.org
678-889-4355
convention@clog.org

CLOG
2986 Mill Park Ct.
Dacula, GA 30019