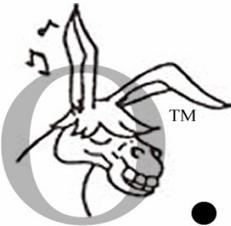


# C.L.G. Today™

Official Newsletter of the National Clogging Leaders Organization



## CITY SLICKER STOMP

By: Barbara Elko

This workshop/competition was held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Independence Missouri. Host, Missy Shinoski kicked off the weekend with a Friday night fun dance. A Comic-con costume contest added

spice to the evening activities. Lauren, Missy's daughter, is a huge Comic-con fan, I am sure the contest was her idea. The participants did a fantastic job portraying their characters of choice. The costumes were engaging! Missy also has a tradition of teaching a hoedown prior to the fun dance. The dancers then demo this routine during the fun dance. A few dozens dancers were involved in the demo, no better way to make new acquaintances! Several other groups demo and for the remainder of the evening various instructors led the attendees through familiar routines and easy teaches.

Saturday morning four opened halls and a seminar room gave the dancers plenty of choices. Many began the day with Dustin Stephan and Sarah Darby-Hughes. They taught a couples routine to a song titled Faith. Dustin was taking a short break from work. Presently his job is

dancing on the Showboat Branson Belle. His partner for this routine Sarah Darby-Hughes was a bundle of energy. Together they made this class a blast! Todd Harry offered several classes, as well as a "intro to advanced techniques." Morgan Hudson had several teaches. His teach to Stuck in The Middle had a silly section where the dancers had to ring a cow bell, you can imagine the laughter this produced!



Lauren and friend

Two "advanced steps" classes were available, one with Dustin Stephan and the other with Kevin Beach. Missy, along with all her other duties attached to running a workshop, taught several routines to Bluegrass Music. My personal favorite was to a song called Kingdom Come, it is a sizzling routine! Two fun level classes for kids were available, one was taught by Rhonda Olney, the other by Sarah Darby-Hughes. Joel Harrison held an informative Hip Hop technique seminar. Yours truly, Barb Elko, taught an intermediate country. I am a proud



survivor of the dreaded corded microphone. Although I must admit the cord wrapped around my ankles prior to the start of my teach did have the class in a jovial mood!

After a short dinner break competition began. It included solos, duets, and teams. The teams dancing were Dixie Diamond-Arkansas, Smashing Toes-

*(Continued on page 2)*

# CLOG Today

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**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

CLOG encourages all cloggers and clogging

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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).

Advertising rates are available online or by

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

contacting the editor.

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# CCI



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but only a precious few can reach"*

Enroll today to experience the education of the Certified Clogging Instructor Program and the teaching tips from more than 50 established clogging instructors.

When you apply for CCI you'll be on your way to improving your instructional skills. You'll 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.



*(Continued from page 1)*

Minnesota, and Pure Energy-Kansas. The competitors did a superb job. Those dancing acapella were amazing!

During a short break a special visitor came hopping into the dance hall. Bugs Bunny, alias Darlene Coddington, led the kids on an Easter Egg Hunt. You just did not know who might make an appearance at the City Slicker Stomp. Thank you Missy, and your gang of volunteers, it was a great weekend!



# The 20th Annual MASON DIXON SPRING STOMP

By: Barbara Elko



The Carroll County Cloggers hosted this workshop. It was held at the St. John's Portico, located in Westminster Maryland. Co-Chairs, Diane Gehret and Lynn Grassi, along with a team of volunteers did a grand job! Three halls were prepared, one was dedicated to beginners. Lunch and dinner were available on site, or you could choose to dine out at one of the numerous nearby restaurants. One thing this workshop had that I personally have not encountered elsewhere is a free snack table. Throughout the day and evening this table remain full of munchies. Thanks to all who made this fun day happen!



Featured instructor Darolyn Pachajek from Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada took control the minute she stepped on stage. She started things off with a routine to Clap Snap which immediately had everyone laughing. Her intermediate routine to Lose Control as well as her advanced to Can I Get A Witness were well received. Her last teach of the day was a routine that she co-wrote with Andy Howard to a song called Stuck. Between teaches Darolyn mingled among the dancers, answered questions, and learned some of the other routines being offered. Her energy and passion for clogging is off the charts!

Armed with great routines were local Virginia instructors Joyce Guthrie, Mary Smith, Kathy Moore. Virginian, Jane Treadwell offered a class called Adding Flatfoot To Your Dance. Representing Pennsylvania were instructors Becky Morehouse and Barb Elko. Maryland instructors included Pam Smiley, Rock Howland, and Candy Ranlet. Rock and Candy held a class on Barn Dancing. Rounding out the instructors list were two young dancers from North Carolina, Chynna Birkmire and her brother Addison. What a wonderful addition. Both are amazing dancers! Chynna was awarded her CCI certification at the 2016 National Convention in Nashville. Both have won many competitions, and have danced at places such as at the Carolina Opry and Dollywood.



The day concluded with a fun dance. Darolyn got things moving with some easy teaches and routines from the National Dance list. Her routine to Grease heightened the laughter on the dance floor. Rock Howland and Candy Ranlet circled up the dancers and the comical confusion of which way is LOD, who is my partner, and where did my partner go, began. This is truly the best way to make new friends at a workshop!

One last dance to Rocky Top and the happy attendees bid farewell to old and new friends.



# The ABCs of Convention Planning

By Barb Guenette

Have you ever wondered how the site for the National Clogging Convention is chosen? Maybe I can help you solve the mystery.

At least 3 years prior to Convention, the Executive Committee is deciding on locations where we might possibly hold convention. Once a city is chosen, then Susan goes to work to hunt out hotels that would work for us as cloggers.

When the hotels have been narrowed down (after many phone calls, emails, etc) to about 3, then the executive committee takes a trip to that city to make the final decision as to which hotel they feel would best suit CLOG.

This year, the winner was the Hyatt Regency Hill Country in San Antonio, Texas! And what a resort it is!

Our trip started in Dallas. Why, you wonder would we started there when we could have flown right to San Antonio. Well, the weekend we chose to visit was also the same weekend as the Texas Clogging Rally in Waco. It just made sense for us to fly to Dallas, drive down to Waco on our way to San Antonio & stop off at the Rally to promote convention.



And no visit to Waco is complete without a visit to Magnolia Market - home of Fixer Upper! If you are a fan this is a must! We spent a very enjoyable morning & afternoon there & then decided we'd like to visit the shop of Joanna's friend Jimmy Don. He's the one who does the beautiful iron signs for her on the show.

The address was plugged into Waze & away we went! Figuring we would be going down the highway, it was quite a surprise to find we were travelling the back roads of central Texas. Maybe his shop is on one of these roads? Nope! But we did see a lot of the countryside, finally coming out onto a highway & there was his shop!

After browsing there & watching the guys at work, we asked the gal on the desk what the easiest way back to Waco was. Turns out we only had to travel about 2 miles before getting on the highway back to Waco & it took us less than 30 minutes (that is if we hadn't stopped off at the antique shops!). Took us at least an hour to get there!

The next day was promoting convention at the Texas Rally & even checking out possible instructors.



Then it was off to San Antonio to meet with the hotel staff to set up the ballrooms for our convention.

After a wonderful breakfast (that was very nicely picked up by the head chef) we toured the grounds of the hotel & then spent the afternoon with hotel staff checking out the ballrooms & deciding on the configuration for our convention. It takes a long time to do this since we want things to run smoothly for all concerned.

It was a whirlwind weekend with 5 nights spent in 5 different hotels! We returned home exhausted but satisfied that Convention 2017 will be the best one yet! Now to really promote this site!

If you want more info on the hotel itself, go to their website at [www.hillcountry.regency.hyatt.com](http://www.hillcountry.regency.hyatt.com) where you can check out everything!



# SAN ANTONIO ANYONE?

If you have never been to a National Clogging Convention & would like to “someday”, you might want to consider attending this year in San Antonio, Texas!

The resort where Convention will be held is absolutely amazing! It is VERY family oriented & family friendly, so your whole family could attend & find something to do even if they do not clog!



When the Executive Committee visited the resort in early March to finalize halls, etc, we were treated to a tour of the grounds & hotel, after having a wonderful breakfast! While touring the grounds, we saw families on bicycles all over the place. Turns out, there are bikes for riding parked at different locations on the grounds. There is no charge for the bikes - if they are there & you'd like to ride, you can do so! Children must have a helmet but adults can get away without.



There are so many activities right at the resort, you may never want to leave! (We do hope you'll want to join us Friday evening tho for our outing to the River Walk for the Christmas parade!).

There is a 27-hole Golf Course, a 5-acre water park that includes a lazy river, water slide & multiple pools, a Spa!, Flow Rider, movies on the lawn, s'mores by the fire, jogging trails & nature trail. If you decide to venture away from the resort, Sea World Texas is just 1.5 miles away. Then there's the famous River Walk & of course the Alamo!

As you register at the front desk you'll notice an events board. On that are the day's activities. Things such as wildlife feeding at 8am every day might be just what the kids want!

There are 9 restaurants to suit any appetite. We had breakfast in the Springhouse Cafe & it was amazing! And I can see that Charlie's Long Bar may become the gathering place for cloggers! Younguns' are allowed in until 9pm when the adults take over. There's shuffleboard, darts, etc in there to keep you busy. The General Store not only has your snack foods but sells coffee & breakfast items as well.



The rooms are large & very comfortable. Every room has a fridge so you'll be able to store your drinks, etc. And at the rate of \$129/night for up to 4 people, that is a real bargain since the regular price for a standard room is anywhere from \$379-\$721/night!

We are hoping the weather will be warm that weekend since we are planning to hold the Thanksgiving dinner outside! That's right - on the deck outside. And yes, we do have a plan B if the weather does not co-operate with us.

You can check out the resort at [www.hillcountry.regency.hyatt.com](http://www.hillcountry.regency.hyatt.com)

They have waived the resort fee & the parking fee for cloggers well. And the internet is free anywhere! Make your reservations thru CLOG at [clog.org](http://clog.org)

Questions? Contact CLOG at [www.clog.org](http://www.clog.org). Reservations at our rate may only be made thru the CLOG website. Hope to see you San Antonio in November!



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in

## On the beat.....

Reprinted from [Cola Daily](#), Columbia, SC

# A thousand-plus take part in Capital City Clogging Classic

January 29, 2017 by [Allen Wallace](#)

Columbia's Jamil Temple echoed with the sounds of music and dancing feet from Saturday morning until late Saturday night, as more than 1,000 competitors took part in the Capital City Clogging Classic.

"It's just so awesome to see so many good dancers and people who love clogging," said 9-year-old clogger Amy Payne. "You get to meet new friends and we all have something to talk about."

Teams from Virginia, Tennessee, and Georgia joined individuals and groups from the Midlands and all over South Carolina for the event, hosted by [Capital City Clogging Co.](#)

The cloggers included men and women and boys and girls ranging from 2-year-olds all the way to adults. Emcee Clay Vassey was kept busy through the long day, with 155 teams taking part in various age divisions and categories such as traditional line form, contemporary, a capella, and open hoedown.

The dancers performed as solo acts and duos as well as in groups, with some groups as small as three and others made up of dozens on stage at once.

The event provided a boost for local businesses, with many out-of-town cloggers and their parents and coaches staying overnight, and many more coming and going at local restaurants throughout the day.

A panel of judges kept score throughout the day, and awarded prizes for entertainment and sportsmanship. A "parent of the day" prize was also included to recognize those who do so much to support the dancers.



*Photos by Allen Wallace*



## Upcoming Events

### May 26-28, 2017

World of Clogging Workshops  
Cincinnati Airport Marriott  
Cincinnati, OH  
Hanna Healy 716-725-8415  
[wnyca.pres@gmail.com](mailto:wnyca.pres@gmail.com)  
[worldofclogging.com](http://worldofclogging.com)

### June 21-24, 2017

66th National Square Dance Convention  
Statehouse Convention Center  
Cincinnati, OH  
<http://www.http://66nsdc.com/>

### July 14-15, 2017

Double Toe Jam  
Waco Convention Center  
Waco, TX  
[info@doubletoejam.org](mailto:info@doubletoejam.org)  
[doubletoejam.org](http://doubletoejam.org)

### August 11-12, 2017

Sunshine State Clogging Jamboree  
Daytona Beach, FL  
Jeff Wood 850-386-1263  
[wood@talstar.com](mailto:wood@talstar.com)  
Naomi Pyle 812-579-6979  
[Naomi\\_p@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Naomi_p@sbcglobal.net)

### August 11-13, 2017

22nd Australian Clogging Association  
National Clogging Convention  
Melbourne, Victoria Australia  
Neville Flegg 0418 306 321  
[nevflegg@bigpond.com](mailto:nevflegg@bigpond.com)  
[cloggingaustralia.com](http://cloggingaustralia.com)

### September 22-23, 2017

Fontana Clogging Jamboree  
Fontana Village Resort  
Fontana Village, NC  
Jeff Driggs 304-776-9571  
[ccajeff@aol.com](mailto:ccajeff@aol.com)  
Naomi Pyle 812-579-6979  
[Naomi\\_p@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Naomi_p@sbcglobal.net)  
[fontanaworkshop.com](http://fontanaworkshop.com)

### October 7, 2017

TCC presents Hoedown  
Pioneer Farms  
Austin, TX  
Buster Green 830-980-3600  
[clogger@thegreenshomepage.com](mailto:clogger@thegreenshomepage.com)  
Debora Duckett 512-292-1030  
[Contemporarycloggers@contemporarycloggers.com](mailto:Contemporarycloggers@contemporarycloggers.com)

### November 22-25, 2017

31st Annual C.L.O.G. National Clogging  
Convention  
Hyatt Regency Hill Country  
San Antonio, TX  
David & Susan Phillips 678-889-4355  
[clog@clog.org](mailto:clog@clog.org)  
[clog.org](http://clog.org)

## Competitions

### May 26-28, 2017

World of Clogging Dance  
Championships (CCA)  
Cincinnati Airport Marriott  
Cincinnati, OH  
Jeff Driggs 304-776-9571  
[worldofclogging@aol.com](mailto:worldofclogging@aol.com)  
[cloggingcontest.com](http://cloggingcontest.com)  
[worldofclogging.com](http://worldofclogging.com)

### June 10, 2017

Bighorn Mtn Showdown  
Buffalo, WY  
Shanell Hatch  
[shanellhatch05@gmail.com](mailto:shanellhatch05@gmail.com)

### June 17, 2017

Grand Challenge of Champions (NCHC)  
Branson, MO  
David and Susan Phillips 678-889-4355  
[gnccclog@gmail.com](mailto:gnccclog@gmail.com)  
[gnccclog.webs.com](http://gnccclog.webs.com)

### June 24, 2017

Shindig in the Valley (ACHF)  
Stompin' Ground  
Maggie Valley, NC  
Stefanie Grubbs Canady 336-918-6269  
[stefaniegrubbs@gmail.com](mailto:stefaniegrubbs@gmail.com)

### June 25, 2017

Explosion Clogging Championships  
(NCHC)  
Cherokee, NC  
Matt & Kelly Sexton 423-282-5065  
423-676-1305  
[DancExpCloggers@aol.com](mailto:DancExpCloggers@aol.com)

### November 4, 2017

Fall Classic Clogging Championships  
(CCA)  
Lexington, KY  
Jeff Driggs 304-776-9571  
[ccajeff@aol.com](mailto:ccajeff@aol.com)  
[cloggingcontest.com](http://cloggingcontest.com)

### November 10-12, 2017

ACHF Annual World Championships  
(ACHF)  
Spartanburg Memorial Auditorium  
Spartanburg, SC  
Jimmy Loveless 301-884-5830  
Ellis Perry 919-484-0623  
Dianne Loftin 864-277-0553

**Check with event coordinators to confirm event details!**

## CLOG Welcomes New Members

Mary Alice Troxel, TX  
Judith Wright, TX  
Michael Norris, SC  
Gwen Nichols, SK, Canada  
Adam Dalton, NC  
Brenda Brandon, PA  
Michele Nelson, AZ  
Carolyn Pullen, MI  
Margaret Hutton, NM

For information on joining CLOG visit our website at [www.clog.org](http://www.clog.org) or contact us at 678-889-4355



[www.clog.org](http://www.clog.org)

(678) 889-4355 [clog@clog.org](mailto:clog@clog.org)

### 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

*Have an event you want listed here?  
Send the information to:  
[CLOGToday@clog.org](mailto:CLOGToday@clog.org)*



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

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## 34rd Annual CLOG National Convention ~ San Antonio, TX ~

November 23-25, 2017  
**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  
Fun Dance & Excursion ~ Friday Evening  
Showcase ~ Saturday Evening

### Featuring:

Premier Clogging Instructors  
Earlier Registration & Member Discounts

**Schedule tentative and subject to Change**



### Hotel Info:

**Hyatt Regency Hill Country**  
9800 Hyatt Resort Dr • San Antonio, TX 78251  
[Hotel online Reservation](#)

### **GROUP ROOM RATES**

Rate: \$129 1-4 ppl per room + tax  
*Free Parking NO Resort Fee  
Fridge in Every Room Free Internet  
20 min From The Airport*

**Guaranteed Rate until 11/2/2017**

**Rooms will Sell Out—Reserve Yours Today!!**

**Register Online** at [www.clog.org/convention](http://www.clog.org/convention)  
INFO: 678-889-4355 [convention@clog.org](mailto:convention@clog.org)

