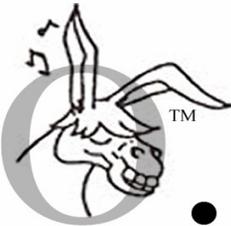


C.L.G. Today™



Official Newsletter of the National Clogging Leaders Organization



By: Barbara Elko



The World of Clogging workshop/competition moved this year to the Holiday Inn Eastgate in Cincinnati Ohio. This suitable location contradicted the old saying “You can’t please everyone” because everyone was thrilled with the new site. Shopping and restaurants galore. This World of Clogging was absolutely amazing!

Anything Hanna Healy and Jeff Driggs get involved in is well organized and excessive fun. Three years ago Joanna and Jeff tried something new, an instructors lottery, the idea exceeded all their expectations. It is a great experience for those chosen to teach. This year along with six past winners, nine new winners were selected. Also teaching were three national soloists, and thirteen featured instructors. Yes ladies and gents this was a dance party like no other! The variety of steps, styles, and music was captivating. One of the most notable occurrences this year was the vast amount of competitive dancers participating in the workshop. This merger greatly enhanced the antics on the dance floor. This trend needs to continue at all workshop/competition combos. Another news flash, World of Clogging is now a full two day event!



Three halls were opened on Friday and a fourth was added Saturday. Choosing a class was really tough! The 2017 lottery winners were Cara Chancellor armed with a pop routine. Alyssa Keller taught advanced tap. Shirley Lipps did a good job relaying her bluegrass routine. Jeigh Maynard showed an advanced country. Donna Neer selected a pop routine. She took advantage of

older steps not often used, this was an interesting class. Katie O’Brien had a pop routine to Perfect Illusion. Jason Stratton had a routine to Geronimo. Maddie Wright, and Stephanie Sturgis taught advanced steps.

The returning lottery winners were Jennifer Murton, Chris Phelps, Colleen Zurbrigg, Brian Dion, Jared Pullum, and Barb Elko. Jennifer Murton and Chris Phelps both taught intermediate pop routines that were well received. Colleen Zurbrigg presented a lively routine to Howdy Neighbor Howdy, chicken wings were optional. Brian Dion pleased the attendees with his routine to Baby Lets Lay Down and Dance. Jared Pullum easily shared his routine to Road Less Traveled. Barb Elko reeled in cloggers to the dance floor with a routine to Shut Up and Fish.

Kaylee Thomas, Abby Simpson, and Stephen Auten, all national champion soloists taught advanced steps. Kelly and Kenny Fithen, and Gavin Cox also held classes on advanced steps. Nothing like learning from the best, and many took advantage of having these folks available.

Thirteen featured instructors is a lot of talent under one roof. Melissa Pack showed a routine to Happy Dance. Prior to the start of her teach, she warned everyone that it would be a cardio workout. That was definitely an understatement. This routine had the dancers moving all over the place, at a very fast pace, and lets not forget all the hand movements. This one was insane fun! Do Something Crazy a CMT production was just that...crazy! Instructors Chris Phelps, Matt Koziuk, and Trevor DeWitt joined forces thus the birth of CMT production. CMT had as much fun teaching the routine as those on the dance floor learning it. One suggestion CMT when it doubt give Matt the microphone. Great job guys, this was memorable. Sheryl Baker had a highly entertaining routine to Sax. Folks had not seen Sheryl for awhile her return was welcomed. Morgan Hudson hall filled for his teach to Give Me One More Time. Naomi Pyle shared her Dirty Laundry. She also invited the cloggers to Get On Board and Dance Like Yo Daddy. Naomi also offered a routine to 23K Magic by Bruno Mars, one of her favorite artist. Sherry and Gavin Cox pop routine to Broke made use of the entire dance floor. Their enthusiasm passed on to those

CMT—Chris, Matt, Trevor



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CLOG Today

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CLOG encourages all cloggers and clogging

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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
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July-August	June 15
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WOC Memorial Day Weekend Fun!

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on the dance floor, this too was a fun class. Master choreographer Jeff Driggs enticed the cloggers with routines to Roads We Never Taken, Train and his latest Shake. Jeff assures the dancers that hand movements are optional, but there was no mention of the shake being optional. Jeff's unique routines always produce laughter.

As always one cannot attend all the classes. The 2017 lottery winners, as well as the past winners, did a fine job and were an welcomed addition. The featured instructors were once again fabulous!

The fun dance Friday and Saturday evening were exhilarating! Everyone was in overdrive, non stop dancing to old favorites, all skates, and easy teaches. Saturday the fun dance is a glow in the dark event...too much fun! As always we bid farewell with the last dance of the evening Rocky Top.

Thanks Johanna, Jeff, all the instructors, volunteers, and cloggers who made this weekend possible. It was a blast!



Cloggers earn multiple awards

(reprinted from suffolknewsherald.com)

Published 7:08 pm Tuesday, July 4, 2017

The Peanut City Cloggers had a successful showing at their competition in June at Maggie Valley, N.C.

The team competed in 11 categories and placed first in 10 of them. They earned second place in the final category. They also got best overall in the following categories: Country, Southern Appalachian, Kentucky Hoedown and Open Hoedown.

The adult team also got the overall highest score in the Traditional.

PCC also received the **Earl Powell award** for having the best Traditional team for the past 20 years.



The following individual Peanut City Cloggers also earned awards:

Joanne Price — Best Overall Traditional Female

Judi Lester — 2nd Place for Traditional Solo

Sarah W. Poole — 2nd Place for Traditional Solo

Shamus Riley — 1st Place for Flatfoot Solo

Sarah W. Poole — 2nd Place for Flatfoot Solo

Brooke Hayden — 2nd Place for Flatfoot Solo

Their next competition will be at the Rally in the Valley in Staunton on July 22.

All teams must qualify their performances by placing first or second in at least two competitions before they can compete in the World Championships that will be held in November in Spartanburg, S.C.

Members of the Peanut City Cloggers team stands outside the Stomp'n' Ground in Maggie Valley, N.C., where the team won 10 first-place awards and a second place award in a recent competition.





2017 NICKEL CITY CLOGGING FESTIVAL

By: Barbara Elko

It was mesmerizing watching the cloggers arrive at the Adams Marks Hotel, in Buffalo New York, the location of the Nickel City Festival. The massive amount of luggage, food, and beverages being hauled in for the weekend was ridiculous. It looked like the dancers planned on staying for a much longer time, and they probably wish they were because this workshop was remarkable! Hanna Healy, president of the Western New York Clogging Association is a great leader and an expert at handling any workshop. She knows the success of this 31 year old workshop is the result of the dependable folks working with her, and the continued support of the exuberant cloggers who attend. Nickel City leaves a indelible impression, thanks to everyone who makes it happen!

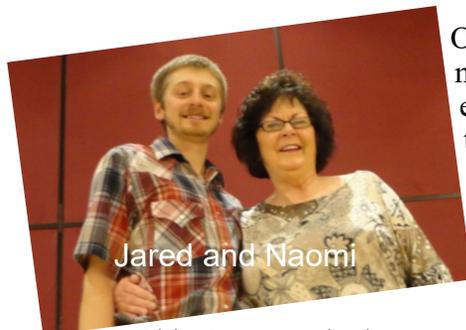
The Thursday night activities included making room reservations for next years festival. This is your reminder, if you have not done so, make your reservation, the rooms fill quickly. The registration table handled the flow of incoming cloggers with ease as did the T-shirt table. Vendors were busy setting up for the weekend shoppers. The fun dance hall was packed with zealous instructors and dancers. Everything was off to a great start!

This years theme was Bluegrass. Like wine and cheese, Bluegrass music and a clog dancing compliment each other. Eight instructors took advantage of this blend—Judy Waymouth, Kerri Orthner, Josh King, Jeff Driggs, Chip Summey, Colleen Zurbrigg, Missy Shinoski, and Naomi Pyle. Also teaching was C J Tate, a perfect instructor to enlist for this years Bluegrass theme. He has years of experience with traditional footwork and figures. Thanks for these routines many welcome the extra beats and speed of Bluegrass Music!

Adding to the excitement of the festival was the return of instructor Josh King. He has been living in Australia for some time, and folks were anxious to get reacquainted. For those who may not know, he is responsible for the choreography to the national dance list song All Shook Up. Sadly his arrival was delayed by a day, because of air travel problems. Josh, his wife, and children eventually arrived at Nickel City via a long bus ride. That is true clogging spirit, and we thank them for their extra efforts. Josh returned with a bit of an accent but his passion for clogging was quite clear!

Since Josh King was stranded at the airport Friday, it left his teaching slots empty. Have no fear, Trevor DeWitt was there! Trevor is a great instructor and easily taught two classes. Katie O'Brien and Jeigh Michelle jumped at the opportunity to fill the remaining empty slot and taught an intermediate routine to Kick the Dust Up.

Jeff Driggs was created then the mold was smashed. His ability to connect with the dancers is uncanny. Simply put this man is entertaining! His class to Train was a prime example. Through the use of hand motions, crazy steps, goofy accents he soon had the dancers on track to releasing their inhibitions, and letting the good times roll.



Jared and Naomi

Our beloved Naomi Pyle has had several health issues recently, but she is on the mend halleluiah! She had several teaches over the weekend, but Road Less Traveled was special. Although she had written a routine to this song, she chose to teach the routine written by Jared Pullman. She liked his better. Naomi and Jared co-taught this one. Jared Pullman is an amiable young man from Kentucky. His routines are as fresh as country air. Witnessing Naomi gently nudging the much less experienced Jared through his teach was priceless! No doubt we will be seeing more of Jared Pullman.

Chip Summey had a country intermediate routine to Make You Mine. He drafted Shane Gruber to help him with the teach. It was comical when Chip handed Shane the microphone and Shane adamantly declined, declaring he



Josh, Della and Amelia meet and greet.

Zach is clearly not impressed.

(Continued from page 4)

had no knowledge of the routine! Chip countered with his southern drawl, "ok then just stand there and be the eye candy." This was a fun class!



Kellee Ramirez made her Mama, Janice Hanzel, proud by stimulating the right foot of the dancers in her class. This occurred during her teach of Woman Up by Meghan Trainor. A heel twist starting on the right was rather awkward!

A class for kids under age ten was available. To further ensure the youngsters had a great time Tracy Rozewicz organized an Easter Egg Hunt. Were her triplets the inspiration for this fun idea?



The song Flatliner was hot this year. Three different instructors Chip Summey, Missy Shinoski and Aliccia Sedorus taught routines to it. Jason Pflugh had a crowd pleasing county routine to Yesterday's Song. The talented Judy Waymouth showed the dancers a routine to a song titled Barn Burner, by Canadian artist Dan Davidson, great music for clogging. Once again the attendees were excited with the wide selection of routines provided by a staff of outstanding instructors, thank you!

When talking about a successful workshop things such as location, facility, instructors, and date of the event are often given the credit for the success. With the recent passing of Janice Livsey Pasnik I now realize it is often spectators that add spark to a workshop. Janice, faithfully attended the Nickel City Festival. She was not a dancer but came to watch her granddaughter dance. Janice stood out in a crowd she had a vibrant personality and a very personalized style of dress. Neon and bling were her thing, and always a hat to finish the look. Her absence this year was truly felt. Our deepest sympathies to her daughter Julie, her granddaughter Jessica and all her family and friends.

There was barely enough room to display all the donated baskets for the Chinese Auction. All the baskets, and wreaths were very attractive. Among all these goodies there was one exceptional item up for auction. The very talented Colleen Zurbrigg crocheted a mermaid blanket, it was absolutely beautiful! Thanks to all who donated and purchased tickets.

New this year and a huge hit was a corn hole tournament. It took place in an area outside the dance halls. Many joined this activity. The first place winners were Lisa Valks and Sherry Carette. The second place award went to Aliccia and Tony Sedorus.



Dancers have had the choice of dining on site Saturday evening. The hotel staff sets up a dining area just outside the dance halls. New this year, dine on site while listening to live music. Creek Bend Bluegrass, a local band, from Buffalo New York provided the sounds and they were awesome! Immediately following dinner the demos begin. Adam Mowry, did a fantastic job introducing the groups, and keeping things moving. This was important because a large number of groups participated. Starting things off the Midwest Cloggers. They named themselves after Fonda Hill's former workshop. At the Midwest workshop Connie and Dave Huffman taught those interested a hoedown. This hoedown would be performed the last evening of the workshop. Fittingly, leading out the column were Connie and Dave Huffman. I have to tell you Con-

(Continued on page 6)

On the beat.....

Nickel City 2017

nie's dress and boots set the stage for a great hoedown! The Backwoods Cloggers, Backwoods Thunder, and Backwoods Ladybugs had fine performances. This past fall, the Backwoods Ladybugs were awarded Jr. Grand Champion at Salt City Clogging Competition, congratulations! Tensation and some members of Judy's School of Dance joined forces, result a great demo. Performing for their first time at a workshop three young girls from the Grand River Cloggers. They made their director Tina Curtis proud. Performing for 29 years, the Lakeside Cloggers danced to Foggy Mt. Breakdown, good choice for the Bluegrass theme. Amy's Got Talent picked Cotton Eye Joe to demo, who does not love CEJ? Stomp'n Em Cloggers' routine to Walk Like an Egyptian was great, as were their costumes. The young girls for the Stomp'n Em 4-H Cloggers had a silly routine to All The Single Girls. The Coldcreek and Quinte Cloggers both from Ontario Canada danced together as they often do. Their routine was entertaining. They also had a lot of fun embarrassing director Debbie Smith as they asked the crowd to join them in singing Happy Birthday to her. Roc City Cloggers had a lively routine to Welcome to the Jungle. The Shane Gang had another stand out performance. Shane is a genius at story telling. His tale this year was Bluegrass versus Punk Rock. The story had a happy ending... common ground on the dance floor! Great job everyone!

Following the demos, it was time for the fun dance in the round. This is rather unusual. The stage is in the center of the dance halls giving one the freedom to dance on either side of the stage. The instructors were in overdrive. It was a very exhausting, exhilarating fun dance, a good ending to a great workshop!

Sadly, this May after 146 years Ringling Bros. Barnum and Bailey Circus plans to shut down. Where will one go to experience the spectacular happenings associated with the circus? Nickel City of course, next year the Festival theme is circus! It is going to be a preposterous workshop, the costume possibilities are endless!

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Upcoming Events

July 29, 2017

Fiddle Fest Workshop
Godard Memorial Hall
Springville, NY
Hanna Healy

wnyca.pres@gmail.com
www.wnyca.com/fiddlefest

July 29-31, 2017

Mississippi Clogging
Extravaganza
Brookhaven Rec Center
Brookhaven, MS.
Angie Miller, 601.906.2882
angiehalemiller@gmail.com
www.mscllogextravaganza.com

August 11-12, 2017

Sunshine State Clogging
Jamboree
Daytona Beach, FL
Jeff Wood 850-386-1263
wood@talstar.com
Naomi Pyle 812-579-6979
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
cloggingaustralia.com

September 22-23, 2017

Fontana Clogging Jamboree
Fontana Village Resort
Fontana Village, NC
Jeff Driggs 304-776-9571
ccajeff@aol.com
Naomi Pyle 812-579-6979
Naomi_p@sbcglobal.net
fontanaworkshop.com

September 29-October 1, 2017

Salt City Workshop
Holiday Inn
Liverpool, NY
Hanna Healy
wnyca.pres@gmail.com
www.wnyca.com/saltcity

October 7, 2017

TCC presents Hoedown
Pioneer Farms
Austin, TX
Buster Green 830-980-3600
clogger@thegreenshomepage.com
m
Debora Duckett 512-292-1030
Contemporarycloggers@contemporarycloggers.com

November 4, 2017

Appalachian Stomp
Carver Center
Purcellville, VA
info@brtc.us
AppalachianStomp.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
clog.org

Competitions

July 29-31, 2017

Mississippi Clogging
Extravaganza (NCHC)
Brookhaven Rec Center
Brookhaven, MS.
Angie Miller, 601.906.2882
angiehalemiller@gmail.com
www.mscllogextravaganza.com

September 2-3, 2017

USA NATIONAL
CHAMPIONSHIPS (NCHC)
Gaylord Opryland Hotel
Nashville, TN
Registration: Ann Lanier
ALANIER821@AOL.COM

September 29-October 1, 2017

Salt City Competition (CCA)
Holiday Inn
Liverpool, NY
Hanna Healy
wnyca.pres@gmail.com
www.wnyca.com/saltcity

November 4, 2017

Fall Classic Clogging
Championships (CCA)
Lexington, KY
Jeff Driggs 304-776-9571
ccajeff@aol.com
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



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Check with event coordinators to confirm event details!

Have an event you want listed here?
Send the information to:
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Dacula, GA USA 30019

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

November 23-25, 2017
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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

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

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