

C.L.G. Today™

Official Newsletter of the National Clogging Leaders Organization

Clogger Bloggers!



In venturing around our community I have recently encountered a couple of our family that have blogs. I know there are probably more out there, but I wanted to introduce you to a couple in this issue. There blogs are very fun and filled with much more than clogging. You should check them out!

Clogging Adventure: Day One

Posted on September 23, 2017 by allisonsieg

Fontana Clogging Jamboree; Fontana Village, North Carolina.

Here I am in the September Smokies. The leaves are just starting to get their affairs in order and update their wills because time is short. To get here from there, you have to drive the Tail Of The Dragon, 11 miles of barf even for the driver. Occasionally you might think, 'Hey, this is pretty!' but nausea is a narcissist, and demands fealty. It can be deposited at the gate though and reclaimed at departure. So that's good.

The dancers in the main hall fill the long room. Its wood floor is the instrument, and a thousand buck-tapped shoes play it in powerful stomping rhythm. The music guides, but the power is in the feet and taps united. And, oh, the variety of feet!

Eight year olds line the front row. Stick-skinny, knowing every step, they dance for hours.

Men who I would erroneously have pegged as football players or at least stadium rats Cotton-Eyed Joe with the best of them. One has on a military t-shirt and I think it's legit.

A lean twenty-something with broody dark hair and glasses, looking like a blogger or start-up non-profit recycler makes every move look liquid and fantastic. Appropriately, his t- shirt says simply, 'Clog.' He, too, dances for hours.

Women, women, women of all shapes and sizes, all! They know the steps to three hours of 'fun dance' in the evening session – not to be confused with six hours of instruction dance all day. Each new song brings a whoop and the new dance starts. They are all lovely whatever their shape or size because the body moving happily is lovely.

A four-year-old boy joins his dad for the men's dance. He has his own little six inch long tapped shoes and he listens and follows the caller's instructions. And so I decide that humanity, for all its frailties, will at least survive the lifespan of that child.

And then, best of all, the seniors. There are many! My favorite lady is wearing yellow and her ankles and feet move neatly, adding their nuance to the bigger loud stomping song. Her stamina is far, far deeper than mine. My favorite man has American flag shoes whose soles light up as he dances a little stiffly and upright but following all the mental moves perfectly. He knows the steps.

So, today is Day Two. I'll be dancing in the Easy Hall today because I have learned that I am a Beginning Beginner. I'll keep you posted.

Allison Siegenthaler is a member of the Clog Wild Cloggers in Birmingham, Alabama directed by Kay Trimm

Follow her blog The Pen of a Ready Writer at allisonsieg.com for more of her poetry, essays and reflections on a variety of topics!



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.

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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.

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Many can teach, but only a precious few can reach"

Marilyn Hansen CCI Tuition Scholarship

In Honor and memory of Marilyn Hansen

What is the Marilyn Hansen Scholarship?

This scholarship was established to honor the memory of Marilyn Hansen, a woman who supported clogging through much of her life and was dedicated to the cause of education in the area of clogging instructors. This grant includes tuition scholarship for the Certified Clogging Instructor Program for two sessions and the application fee worth \$310.00.



- This scholarship does not include travel and lodging.
- The scholarship cannot be applied to franchise sponsored CCI Sessions, it can only be applied to CCI Sessions offered by CLOG such as sessions offered during the National CLOG Convention.
- The scholarship must be used in the same year it is awarded.
- The minimum age limit for CCI seminars and the scholarship is 16 years of age.

How To Apply:

Letters of Application will be accepted from January 1, 2018 through April 30, 2018. Applicants will be notified by May 31, 2018.

For more information <http://clog.org/CCI/scholarship.html>



Have you visited the
www.Clog.Org
website lately?

Check it out our new format
and get up to date on the
National Convention in Atlanta,
NCHC competitions, National
Dance list and more!

The Results are in!!!

NCHC Results: Florida Clogging Festival
Saturday, February 10, 2018
Kissimmee, Florida

The 2018 Florida Clogging Festival, directed by Andy Howard, was held in conjunction with the Osceola County Fair in Kissimmee, Florida. The theme in 2018 promoted Florida's agriculture (#agvocate). Seven Florida teams participated, including Buckshot, Southern Rhythm, South Florida Cloggers, Pure Dynamics, Grayson Extreme, Extreme Dance, and Clogging Connection. A morning workshop brought together numerous other dancers and groups from around Florida, and guests from Canada, Ohio, and Michigan joined this year (eager to escape the cold winter for our temperatures in the 80s this weekend).

The four teams that took overall high scores were awarded official adoption papers for a Florida Manatee, through a donation from the festival to the Save The Manatee Club in their honor.

- Rookie Contemporary: Clogging Connection (Show)
- Rookie Traditional: Southern Rhythm (Running Set Precision)
- Challenge Contemporary: Buckshot (Traditional Line)
- Challenge Traditional: Southern Rhythm (Running Set Precision)

Save the date for 2019's event – February 9, 2018 (Tentative). For more information, check the event's website: FloridaClogging.com



On the beat.....

Meet Clogger Blogger Sheila Jo Spencer!

Editors Note: some photos were cropped in this reprint for publication spacing.

March 1, 2018

Dia de los competition clogging at Florida Clogging Festival 2018!

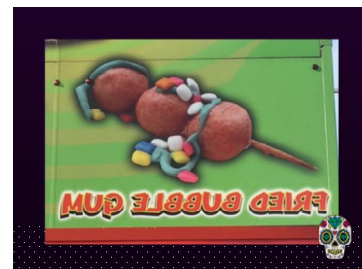
Clogging Travels



Clogging, then fair food! (*Don't try it the other way around.*) After eight workshop classes, I searched the Osceola County Fair for the perfect snack before settling in to watch the Florida Clogging Festival clogging competition.

ANNOUNCEMENT: The world has officially run out of things to fry.

If anyone tried this and lived to tell the tale, please tell me about it. I'm not convinced of the edibility of fried bubble gum...



However, deep fried cheese curds from Wisconsin are absolutely delicious when consumed in Florida! Workshop instructor Kyle Kirkland did not steer me wrong with his recommendation of this treat.

Complete with ranch dressing for dipping! I'll be looking for this item at some of the Ohio festivals this year.

Meanwhile, my fearless leader prepared to serve as an apprentice judge for the clogging competition. Doesn't she look fashionably judgey? The outfit was a last-minute find on our ride from the airport to the lovely home of Evie's niece.



Competition dancers had TWO extra sets of eyes watching them from the judges' tables; Kaitlyn Hedrick joined my director Evie for the training. Their scores did not count, but they filled out paperwork all the same. Look at them, working hard while Paul Melville calls out solo numbers!



It sure felt different to be casually watching a competition instead of keeping close tabs on the schedule and gearing up for my team's next routine. I thoroughly enjoyed the sass that South Florida Cloggers brought to this dance and another one I got to watch ("*Georgia Peaches*," maybe?). Great job, ladies!

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Florida Clogging Connection stayed busy all day! According to the program, they brought at least 13 team dances in various age categories, plus solos and duets. (Even more if they brought an acapella team dance - I wasn't present for that category, and acapella teams weren't named in the program.) This pic shows one of their hoedowns.

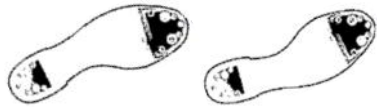


I snagged a seat among this spirited group for part of the competition. It was a good spot to snap photos of Evie and Kaitlyn judging. I enjoyed the opportunity to briefly chat with clogger Summer and her mother Sherri, who answered questions and provided photos for a previous blog post about the [Miss Southeastern Clogger Pageant](#). It was great to see Maureen as well - she contributed to a post last year about her team's [trip to New York for a dance parade](#). Maureen was stinkin' cute in a baseball costume for one of Clogging Connection's dances. Would've loved to talk longer, but they had a lot to do during the competition.

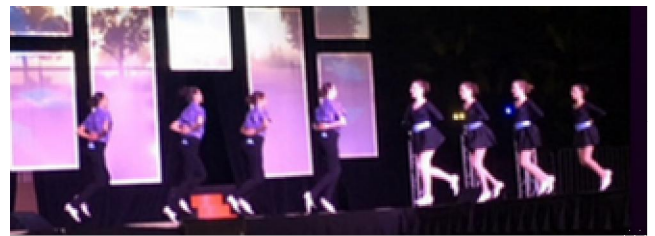


Buckshot Cloggers filled the stage. I admired them last year, and they brought it again. What a fun group to watch!

Have you thanked the team parents and friends who video and take photos lately? Buckshot Cloggers win my vote for best video crew at the Florida Clogging Festival. They didn't even fight amongst themselves; each person found a spot and started filming. When their team was done, they dispersed quickly to make room for others. Those Buckshot folks are pros.



Southern Rhythm competed two running set precisions. Even after a long day of competition, they managed to make it look fun. I want to try a running set dance one of these days!



Pure Dynamics (below Left) brought the adorable factor, including this hoedown in the elementary age division.

Grayson Extreme (below Right) stepped out of a sparkly forest for this routine!



(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

Whew! Glad I have something good to say because a team from Extreme Dance and Mixed Martial Arts Studio could probably kick my butt and stay on beat at the same time. First, their circus costumes are fabulous! Second, I heard a rumor that the Florida Clogging Festival was the first clogging competition ever for some of their dancers, and the first time competing in clogging solos for many of their dancers. Congrats for having the guts to take that step!

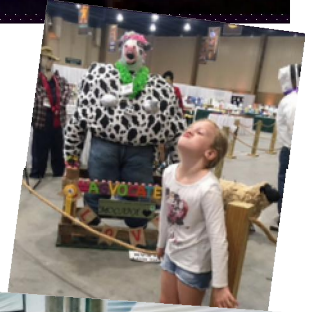


If you are wondering why the photos include sugar skulls, this is the back of the festival tee shirt. Unique design, I love it! (editors note: some photos here were cropped for space so do not have the design)

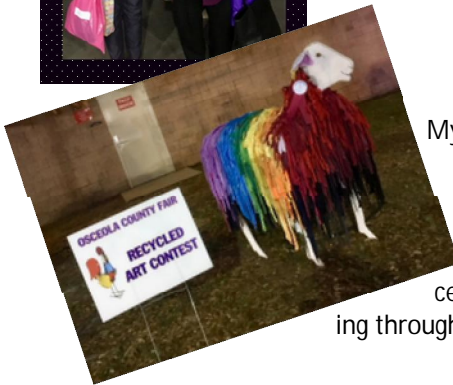
It's uncanny how much this woman looks like the grandmother of my former clogging teammate! Grandma Jean, do you have a sister in Florida?!



The competition venue had some wonderful features, including a toddler play area and 4H displays to peruse when you needed a break. Brianna and I declared "Mooana" to be our favorite entry in this category, and Brianna decided to moo along with her!

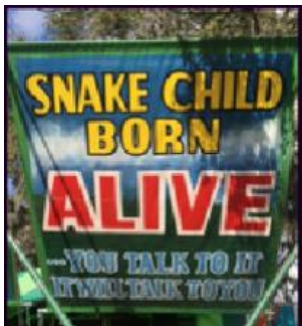


Uh-oh, the camels have it figured out. Wonder how many fairgoers still lost their cups...



My favorite entry in the recycled art contest.

The man in front of me was cracking jokes about how inappropriate it was for a man in the adjacent aisle to be eating a giant turkey leg while walking through this tent. He has a point.



Do you think they're related?

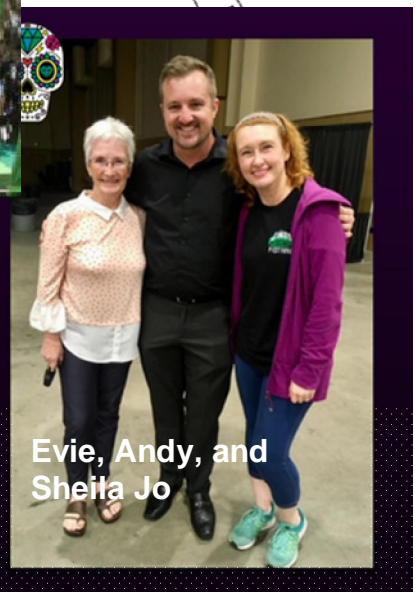


The rides look so pretty at night!

THANK YOU to Andy Howard and other event organizers for a wonderful day of clogging!

Interested in attending the Florida Clogging Festival next year? Join the Florida Clogging Festival group on Facebook to keep up with planning info or contact Andy Howard.

What's the craziest fried food item YOU'VE ever eaten?



Evie, Andy, and Sheila Jo

You can follow Sheila Jo Spencer's blog at sheilajospencer.com



Upcoming Events

March 23-24, 2018

Possum Trot Clogging Workshop
Courtyard by Marriott
Oxnard, CA
possumtrotca.net

April 6-7, 2018

City Slicker Stomp
Independence, MO
Missy Shinoski 816-443-3030
kloghop@sbcglobal.net
www.CitySlickerStomp.info

April 13-14, 2018

Indian River Cloggers POWWOW
Kiwanas Island
Merritt Island, FL
Sandy Smallwood 321-631-5104
Bob Howard 321-452-6757
indianrivercloggers.org

April 19-21, 2018

Nickel City Clogging Festival
Adam's Mark Buffalo
Buffalo, NY
Hanna Healy 716-725-8415
wnyca.pres@gmail.com
wnyca.com

April 27-28, 2018

Clogging in the Natural State
Hilton Garden Inn
North Little Rock, AR
Kathey Wilson 870-243-8113
dancetymestudio@gmail.com

April 27-28, 2018

Swing Into Spring Clogging Workshop
Lake Cumberland State Park
Lake Cumberland, KY
Trevor DeWitt 317-670-8934
trevor@clogdancing.com
lakecumberlandworkshop.info

May 25-27, 2018

World of Clogging Workshops
Holiday Inn Eastgate
Cincinnati, OH
Hanna Healy 716-725-8415
worldofclogging@aol.com
worldofclogging.com

September 21-22, 2018

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

Competitions

March 24, 2018

Winter Clogging Invitational (NCHC)
Polk County High School,
Columbus, NC
Chip Summey Ncjcs@aol.com

April 5-7, 2018

Northeast Clogging Competition
(NCHC)
Manchester, MA
Beth Kendall 802-439-3349
bkendall@tops-tele.com
www.freewebs.com/necc

April 7, 2018

City Slicker Stomp (NCHC)
Independence, MO
Missy Shinoski 816-443-3030
kloghop@sbcglobal.net
www.CitySlickerStomp.info

April 14, 2018

Southern Junction Clogging
Championships (ACHF)
Wren High School Auditorium
Piedmont, SC
Gwen Stamp 864- 299-8601
gwen@southernjunctioncloggers.com

May 5-6, 2018

Dollywood Clogging Classic
Dollywood
Pigeon Forge, TN
David & Susan Phillips
dccclog@gmail.com

May 25-27, 2018

World of Clogging Competition (CCA)
Holiday Inn Eastgate
Cincinnati, OH
Hanna Healy 716-725-8415
worldofclogging@aol.com
worldofclogging.com

June 15-16, 2018

Grand Challenge of Champions
Silver Dollar City
Branson, MO
David and Susan Phillips
(678) 889-4355
gnccclog@gmail.com
gnccclog.webs.com

July 7, 2018

Let the Sparks Fly Competition
Cabool, MO
Rebecca Peterson (417) 254-3168
matbec@centurytel.net

July 28, 2018

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

September 1-2, 2018

USA National Championships
Gaylord Opryland Hotel
Nashville, TN
Registration Information:
ALANIER821@AOL.COM
Opryland Hotel Reservations
ON-LINE Reservations

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

CLOG Welcomes New Members

Mary Burleson, OK
Monique Maritneau, ME
Bonnie Hamilton, FL

For information on joining CLOG
visit our website at ww.clog.org or
contact us at 678-889-4355



www.clog.org

(678) 889-4355 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
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Clogging Group Membership
List membership in area, state, and/
or national clogging associations

To: **CLOG, Inc.**
2986 Mill Park Court
Dacula, GA 30019



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2986 Mill Park Court
Dacula, GA USA 30019

35th Annual CLOG National Convention ~ Atlanta, GA ~

November 21-24, 2018
Make Your Plans Now!

Featuring:

Premier Clogging Instructors
Early Registration & Member Discounts

Schedule

Wednesday-Thursday	Certified Clogging Instructor Seminar
Wednesday 1:00-4:00	Workshops- Up and Rising Instructors
Wednesday - Saturday	Nightly Fun Dances
Thursday	Dance Expose
Thursday 9AM-3PM	Workshops- p and Rising Instructors
Thursday Late Afternoon	Thanksgiving Dinner
Thursday Evening	Parade of Colors
Friday -Saturday	Workshops- National Instructors
9am - 5pm	Over 75 hours of Workshops & Seminars

Friday Evening - Excursion - TBA

Friday Evening - Enjoy the Fun Dance

Saturday 7 PM Showcase and Fun Dance

****Schedule Subject to change****



ALL ACTIVITIES UNDER ONE ROOF!

Hotel Info:

Atlanta Marriott Marquis

265 Peachtree Center Ave. • Atlanta, GA 30303

[Hotel onLine Reservation](#)

GROUP ROOM RATES

Rate: \$111 1-4 ppl per room + tax

Self Parking \$1.00

20 min From The Airport

Guaranteed Rate until 10/24/2018

Rooms will Sell Out—Reserve Yours Today!!

Register Online at www.clog.org/convention

INFO: 678-889-4355 convention@clog.org

