

AFRICAN AMERICAN DAY PARADE

Sunday, September 17, 2006

Meet with the rest of the CPDSA crew at:

4:00 PM

113th Street and Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Blvd.
On the West Side of the Avenue

The CPDSA will have a float with a sound system

Please sign up ahead of time
at the CPDSA DJ booth
or e-mail Darryl at: MrDarrylThomas@gmail.com

Limited baggage storage, bring as little as possible
Leave valuables at home.

If you would like to contribute stories or photos
for consideration in our next newsletter,
please contact:
CPDSA@earthlink.net



Lezly and Beth bounce to the beat

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CENTRAL PARK DANCE SKATERS ASSOCIATION



NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2006

VOL. 12 ISSUE 4

EVENTS SCHEDULE

LABOR DAY WEEKEND

9/02 SATURDAY

DJ RC La Rock

9/03 SUNDAY

DJ Misbehaviour

9/04 MONDAY

DJ Rikky Rivera

9/09 SATURDAY

NO SKATING

Race for the Cure Set up

9/10 SUNDAY

4pm start: DJ Mike Dominico

9/16 SATURDAY

DJ Misbehaviour

9/17 SUNDAY

DJ Frank Garcia

9/23 SATURDAY

DJ Alchemy

9/24 SUNDAY

DJ Julio & DJ Danny Krivit

9/30 SATURDAY

NO SKATING

PAWS - canine special event

10/1 SUNDAY

DJ TBA

THE CENTRAL PARK SKATE CIRCLE

takes place every Saturday,
Sunday and major holiday
in 2006 from April 8th through
October 29th. The music plays
from 2:30pm to 6:30pm.

OFFICIAL CPDSA CONTACTS

Lezly Ziering 212-777-3232

Bob Nichols 212-246-1344

On the Web www.CPDSA.org

E-mail CPDSA@earthlink.net

CPDSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lezly Ziering - Chairman

Bob Nichols

Gwen White

Daniel Guzman

Rebecca Guzman

Darryl Thomas

Duane Reid

Charles Threatt

William Harrison

African American Day Parade

by Lezly Ziering

This will be our third year participating in the African American Day Parade, and each year we have improved over the last.

In 2004 we rigged a sound system onto my car with DJ Rob Scott doing double duty as driver & DJ. We gave out flags with the CPDSA logo to the 50 or so skaters who turned out for the celebration. We actively waited for an interminable time for our turn to move out into the Parade. A few who came got tired of waiting and left. It was skate and wait and some of the skaters were just about skated out by the time the marshals gave us the go ahead.

The sound system we used was small and we were barely heard over the surrounding bands and

competing sound systems. If you skated ahead of the car, which moved at a snails pace, you skated out of our sound perimeter. But the route was fairly smooth and skate friendly, and the spectators loved us and gave our skaters a warm and rousing reception.

In '05 we had the sponsorship of Center Care Health Plan who supplied a sound truck and a bus where we could store our bags. They also footed the bill for some good looking T-shirts for all the skaters. The sound system was far superior but the DJ, who had committed at the last minute, stood us up and we were fortunate that we had some excellent CDs in the hopper. Our turnout topped the 2004 numbers as did the

reception we received from the onlookers. We were a hit!!!

So here we are in 2006. Our sponsor this year will be MetroPlus Health Plan. Once again we will have some snazzy purple T's for the participants and we will have a Float to house a state of the art sound system and signs with our logo prominently displayed. Let me tell you—it's a blast—great fun, the camaraderie and ambiance of some of the best skaters on the NY scene, and if that is not enough, our Top Notch DJ for this Super Sunday will be Big Bob. So be there, or be—you know what!!

Check out parade details and sign-up info on the back page of this newsletter.



Energy is in the air when CPDSA skaters and dancers bust out their moves

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CPDSA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

JOIN US!

Name _____ Date ____/____/____ Member # _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home or Cell Phone _____

Work or Cell Phone _____

E-mail _____

Contribution:

\$15 \$25 \$50 \$100 Other _____

New Member Renewal

Please cut out this membership application and mail it, along with your contribution, to the CPDSA address below.

You can get additional applications and more information from Lezly Ziering at the CPDSA Skate Circle, located mid-park at the foot of the bandshell. You can find us by entering Central Park at 72nd street and walking along Olmsted Way toward the center of the park. Just follow your ears. Listen for our dance music. You can't miss us.



CENTRAL PARK DANCE SKATERS ASSOCIATION
14 Washington Place, #11F
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(212) 777-3232



Which way is up? Bob gets twisted in a funky skate move

© 2006 Ray Gorton



The next generation of CPDSA skaters strike a pose

© 2006 Ray Gorton

There Should Be An Old-Timers Day

by Gene A. Williams (Ex-President, CPDSA)

I had not been around for a while and had trepidation about returning to the skate scene. Many questions circled among my thoughts as I pondered what to expect, such as who's the D.J., who's still around, and most importantly, could I still jam?

Nevertheless, one Saturday afternoon I pulled myself together, and with my skates in tow, I headed for Central park. After a rather long subway ride, I crossed 72nd St. and Central Park West and descended toward Skaters Road using the short cut through John Lennon's Strawberry Fields.

Gingerly, I worked my way down hill mostly sliding between the many Lennon curiosity seekers.

At last I was on Olmstead Way and could now here faint musical sounds of "God Made Me Funky." Only now did excitement rush through my body in anticipation of things to come.

The electric atmosphere of Skaters Road had not lost its edge as I entered CPDSA's skate area.

Wow, what an experience this group created with Rikky Rivera spinning on the ones and two's, pumping out all the tunes I liked. So many old friends were here as I was welcomed with heartfelt cheers from staff, skaters and onlookers, while making my way to the skate surface. Not long after some time on my wheels, I wondered about so many others I didn't see. I then remembered that a number of our dear friends had passed.

The thought of such memories interrupted my concentration as I thought about the people I had not seen and wondered where they were off to.

Then suddenly it hit me — Why doesn't this organization have an Old Timers Day?

Contact Gene Williams by e-mail at: Wag@hotmail.com



The CPDSA would like to thank **CRATE AUDIO** for donating **2 brand new peripheral speakers** for our sound system this season, and for their generous support through the years.



Dr. Janis Brody
Your Body: The Girls' Guide
(St. Martin's Press)

Janis' book is recommended by Publisher's Weekly, Jump Magazine, and Amazon's Top 10 Family List. Available on Amazon.com



The View from Skaters Road

by Bob Nichols

The summer has flown by so fast, it might have broken the sound barrier. The record-breaking heatwave of July yielded to cooler, late August breezes and now it is Labor Day weekend—the end of summer. Only two precious months remain in the CPDSA 2006 season and it still feels as if we are only getting started. The seasons flip through their cycles and the years flutter by like leaves falling from the trees surrounding Skaters Road.

This is the twelfth year that the CPDSA has obtained all the official permits, negotiated with the City and kept the Skate Circle in compliance with all the Parks regulations, so that we could keep our skate dance party going. Some of us remember the original Circle that started in the late '70s and continued through the early 90's; It was a wilder, less regulated place. One thing remains the same: it is a place where strangers come together to skate and who, over time, transcend preconceptions and stereotypes to become friends.

In another article in this newsletter, Gene Williams, a former CPDSA President, proposes that we set aside a day this fall as "Old Timers Day." Gene leaves this idea very open ended—there are many things we can do to celebrate this theme: Several DJs have volunteered to spin for us, and at least one of our skaters has a '70s costume that she is dying to break out for a lip sync, dance and celebrity impersonation performance.

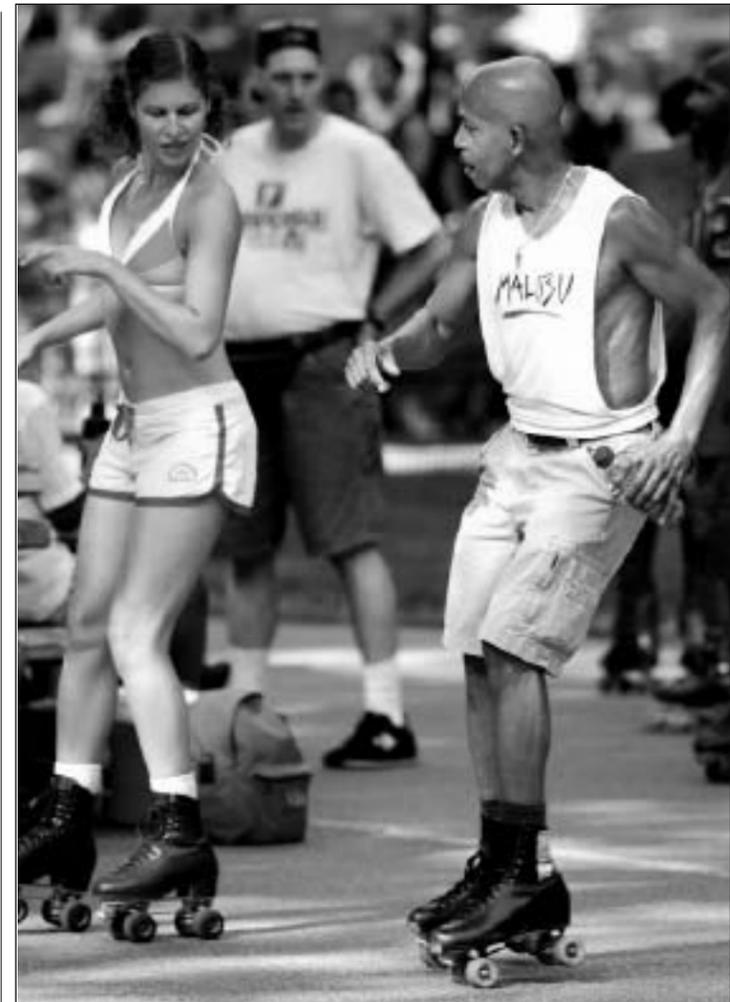
DJ Julio and his good friend Marion Green are hosting a Village Skate reunion at the Rink in Montvale on September 30th and that might be a great place to rustle up some of those "Old Timers" who used to skate with us in the Park. If there is enough interest in this idea, we can set aside a day in October for this event, but it is really up to you. If you want to see this happen, get in touch with Gene Williams and come up with some ideas. The CPDSA will get behind you on this, but you have to lead the way.

For a long time I have been trying to convey that the CPDSA is a tool at the disposal of all of you skaters; a complex machine that allows us to keep skating to music in Central Park. The CPDSA is the infrastructure that underlies the Circle, we are the stagehands who carry the barricades, tie the ropes and sweep the ground. We are the ones who set up, break down and maintain the audio equipment. We organize the rink and redirect passing strollers, skateboarders and bicyclists to the paths around us so that we remain a skating rink and not a thoroughfare. We also try to keep the Circle clean, secure and safe.

We have great freedom, within the rules, to do our thing our own way. I have begun to understand that it is in the very nature of the Circle for it to be a collaborative effort. All the different skaters with unique styles and skills form a moving mosaic of motion, rhythm and color that give us great pleasure and captivates onlookers for hours. The DJs weave the musical thread that holds us all together, while photographers, videographers, cartoonists and other artists try to capture the ephemeral essence of our dance.

One thing has a lot of us freaked out: there is a snake slithering around the Skaters Road, swallowing up cell phones. It slips right into people's bags and sneaks away with their phones in its belly. We are on the lookout and will not hesitate to call the proper animal control authorities to remove this vermin. Please hide your valuables deep inside your bags, where they are not visible and are hard to get to quickly. Don't put your cell phone or your wallet or your new digital camera or your ipod in an easily accessible outside pocket while you are skating. You can also help by keeping your eyes open and letting us know if you have any idea what rock this reptile crawls out from under.

The Skate Circle Lives!



Marci and Greg practice "The Continuation"

© 2006 Mr. Inky/Duc Le



Tamra feels the music as she takes a turn around the Circle

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