



Central Park DANCE SKATERS ASSOCIATION

JULY 2014
Vol. 20 Issue 2

INDEPENDENCE DAY WEEKEND

07/04 FRIDAY
DJ RC LaRock

07/05 SATURDAY
DJ KL

07/06 SUNDAY
DJ Ray Vazquez

07/12 SATURDAY
DJ Stargazer &
DJ Datgurlcurly

07/13 SUNDAY
DJ Mike Dominico

07/19 SATURDAY
DJ Cuba

07/20 SUNDAY
DJ Rob Scott—
50th Birthday

07/26 SATURDAY
DJ Andre Collins

07/27 SUNDAY
DJ Big Bob—
60th Birthday

08/02 SATURDAY
NO SKATING
NYC Triathlon Setup

08/03 SUNDAY
NO SKATING
NYC Triathlon

THE CENTRAL PARK SKATE CIRCLE

takes place most Saturdays, Sundays and major holidays in 2014 from April 12th through October 26th. The music plays from 2:45 pm to 6:45 pm.

OFFICIAL CPDSA CONTACTS

Bob Nichols 212-246-1344

On the Web www.CPDSA.org

E-mail CPDSA@earthlink.net

CPDSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bob Nichols, President

Gwen White,

Recording Secretary

Vera Sinnreich

Tyrone Cloud

Jose Rivera

Duane Reid

Sal Rentas

Lezly Ziering, President Emeritus

Bobbi Bongard:

Editing, Production

Happy Birthday CPDSA

The weather this summer has been a bit cooler than usual, maybe the Polar Vortex is hanging on to whatever power it still has left. A relatively cool dry summer would be a gift to the Skate Circle, much better than some of the oppressively hot and humid years we have endured. Eighty-five degrees with a light breeze? Just what we would order, if we could.

The fourth of July can be very hot, but we always celebrate it with gusto, it is our birthday. In 1994 the area where we now skate at the north end of Center Drive, was a newly paved patch of asphalt behind ten foot high chain link fences, where materials were stored for the restoration of the Bandshell plaza and the Bethesda Fountain. The Dinkins Administration reached out to the skaters who congregated just up the hill at the old Circle.

Toby Bergman—then the Chief of Operations of

Central Park—met with a group of us. We were promised the use of the newly paved area, if we would move our Skate Circle down there and make use of the natural amphitheater formed by the hills around us to contain our music and keep it from reaching the quiet zones on the Sheep Meadow and the Lake. We also agreed not to complain when big events displaced us for a day. We accepted the offer and moved our Circle there. Wayne and a few friends painted new rink guide lines on the pavement and the new Circle was born.

The following April, 1995, the newly elected Guiliani administration reneged on our agreement with the Parks Department and surprised us with a force of Parks Enforcement and regular Police officers—fourteen vehicles in all. They confiscated a small boom-box from Carlos Benitez and told the skaters that no “amplified sound” was permitted.

Over the next three months a “committee” was formed to negotiate a settlement with the City to allow us to continue skating. Guiliani had the law amended so that any assembly of twenty-five or more—instead of fifty—would need a Special Events permit and an amplified sound permit would be required for us to play music. The administration refused to negotiate with us until after Stu Popovitz built us an FM radio transmitter and we were able to broadcast our music to the skaters, who wore headphones and used small FM Walkmen to keep us all hearing the same music. Once we could play music the Skaters came back in force. Then it was just a matter of time and persistence before we were able to strike a deal to get the required permits. We were able to start up the Skate Circle again on July 4, 1995.



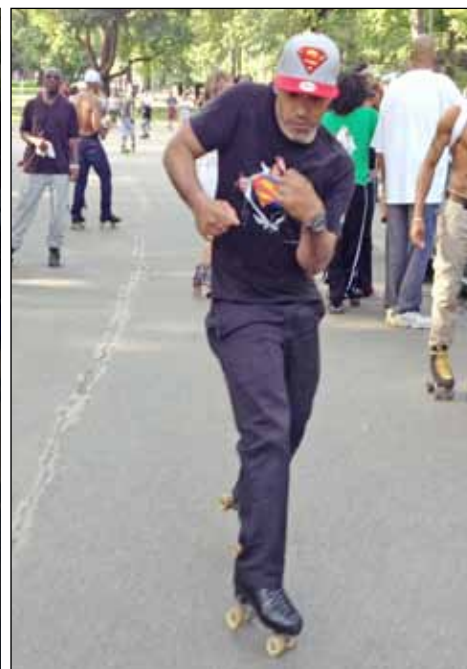
CPDSA Skate Family—Memorial Day 2014



Pete



Pamela & Tyrone



Jose

Photo: © 2014 by Bob Dea

Photo: © 2014 by Bob Nichols

Photo: © 2014 by Bob Nichols

SKATERS, DO YOU HAVE SKILLS THAT COULD HELP THE SKATE CIRCLE?

...or just someone genuinely willing to be a part of the group that keeps the skate circle rolling?

Would you like to contribute stories or photos for consideration in our next newsletter?

please contact: CPDSA@earthlink.net



Last Stop: A Survivor's Story

by Nelson Velez and Tommy McInnis

A true story based on the lives and work of Nelson Velez, NYPD HOU police officer, and Tommy McInnis, an MTA Connections outreach worker, truly details the lives of some of New York's unsung heroes.

<http://www.laststopbook.com>



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110 Kosciuszko St., Brooklyn, NY 11216

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8 pm-Midnight

Travel Info: crazylegsskateclub.com

SKATING WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

Crazy Legs Skate Club
8:00 PM – Midnight
Admission: \$10.00

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Skate Rentals: \$5.00

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Amy hooping on skates

Photo: © 2014 by Bob Dea

The View from Skaters Road

by Bob Nichols, President, CPDSA

WOW! It's the 4th of July already! Summer's here and the time is right for Dance Skating in the park. Springtime park special events have finished their run. We are finally back to our Saturday and Sunday schedule for the rest of the Summer. The first weekend in August our area becomes the finish line for the the NY Triathlon, except for that, we have both days booked straight through Labor Day.

We can skate Saturdays and Sundays all summer, which is a great thing for all of us. To me, though—having been a part of the everyday operation of the Circle since the 4th of July, 1995—the day to day grind of making it all happen is a daunting reality. Each day is an adventure.

We need a good team of staff and volunteers to pitch in and make the Skate Circle happen. It is not complex, we have a limited amount of sound equipment and a few safety items. There are three benches surrounding our baggage area, tables for the DJ equipment, a first aid kit, skate tools, and a few other amenities that make the DJ booth a comfortable human space in the middle of a road in the middle of the park. We try to be welcoming and friendly to the skaters, the DJs, dancers and other visitors.

We do have some rules and a perimeter of barricades that make a skating rink possible by keeping people from wandering in and disrupting the counter clockwise flow of the skaters around the rink. The Skate Circle is a rink only because we imagine it, believe it is and work together to make it a safe place to skate.

Some of us handle the sound equipment, others put the

barricades in place, sweep the floor, put up signs or pick up trash. Others don't do any physical work, but make financial contributions and become CPDSA members. There are some who just skate or dance with us and follow the rules. They set a good example for visitors and onlookers to know how to act in the Skate Circle; how to enter and exit the area safely without causing accidents or inconveniencing the skaters circling the rink.

There are some, however, who think they can do whatever they want, they flaunt the rules and disrespect the Circle. They jump over the ropes or squeeze between the barricades and then run across the skating area to get to the dance section. They will walk against the skate traffic and give our skate guards an argument when they are stopped and corrected. They will put chalk or talcum powder down on the pavement in the dance areas or even right on the rink itself. They will try to bring alcoholic drinks or smoke—which are both against Parks Department Regulations. They think that because we are in the park, our permits and organization do not give us the right to tell them what to do. To those people I say: "Follow the rules or leave."

The Central Park Dance Skaters work hard to make this a special place—for Dance Skaters—first and foremost. We welcome dancers who respect us and our skaters, but we do not have a lot of extra space and if you cannot agree to follow our common sense safety regulations we would prefer that you stay outside our barricades and watch from a distance.

The Skate Circle Lives!



DJ Arson



DJ Mike Dominico



DJ Ray Vazquez & DJ Johnny Rivera

Thank You 2014 CPDSA New and Renewing Members

The CPDSA thanks these current 2014 members whose generosity allows us to keep rolling.

Alex
Bobbi Bongard
Dave Britton
Rita Britton
Val Brochard
Berta Bustamante
Kat Campbell
Vinnie, Paula & Jake
Campisi
Richard Casalino
Michael Chung
Kathy Cino
Terry & Janice Collins
Darryl Davis
Lynna Davis

Brian Doyle
Richard Epstein & Roz Reich
Fantastic Man Video
Peggy SkateKey Flefleh
Jeffrey Goldberg &
Miyuki Kogo
Janis
Richard Hassard
Michael Katz
Kenny & Gayle
Michele Knowles
Murat Koprulu
Louis Lara
Gary Lesser
Edward Lifshitz

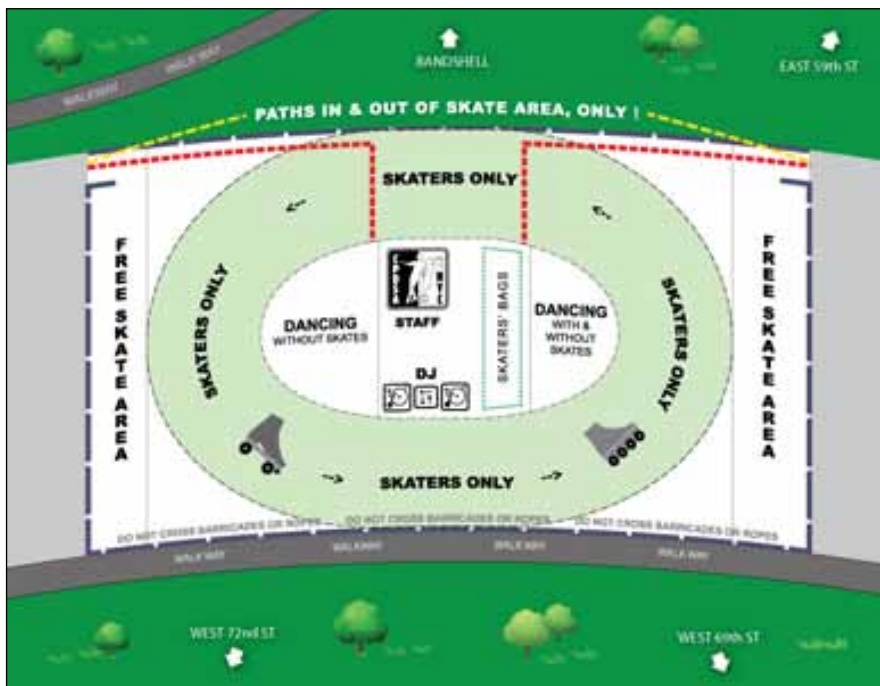
David Linton
Steve Love
Chantal Mariani
Suzanne Maxx
Mark Merschen
Nancy & Mark Mindes
Bobby Morales
Gail, Steve & Justin Myrick
Robin Ostrow
Alan Pfeifer
Amy Rea
Lisa Reich-Scholtisek
Connie Reynolds
Regina Rider
Eric & June Ritter

Jaimie Rivera
Jose Rivera
Zulma Rodriguez
David Rothman
Jose Santana
Mark Scher
David Schulte-Herbrueggen
Vera Sinnreich
Richie Spivack
Adam Strek
Tanya Valle
Monique van Grinsven
Thomas Winslow
Mark & Lee Wolf
Danuta Zakrzewska



Edna congratulates Dilta on her 80th Birthday

Photo: © 2014 by Bob Dea



The Skate Circle users guide

© 2014 by Sal Rentas

CPDSA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



JOIN US!

Name _____

Date ____/____/____

Member # _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home or Cell Phone _____ - _____ - _____

Work or Cell Phone _____ - _____ - _____

E-mail _____

Contribution:

☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other _____

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal

Please make a copy of this membership application and mail it, along with your contribution, to the CPDSA address below. You can get additional applications and more information from our staff members at the CPDSA Skate Circle, located mid-park, just west of the bandshell. To find us, enter Central Park at East or West 72nd street on weekend days between 3 and 7 PM and walk along Terrace Drive toward the center of the park. Listen for our dance music, you'll find us.



Central Park DANCE SKATERS ASSOCIATION

c/o Bob Nichols
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New York, NY 10019