



Central Park DANCE SKATERS ASSOCIATION

JULY 2015
VOL. 21 ISSUE 2

INDEPENDENCE DAY WEEKEND

07/04 SATURDAY
DJ Ray Vazquez

07/05 SUNDAY
DJ Misbehaviour

07/11 SATURDAY
NO SKATING
Latin Evangelical event
at the Great Lawn

07/12 SUNDAY
DJ Mike Dominico

07/18 SATURDAY
NO SKATING
NYC Triathlon

07/19 SUNDAY
NO SKATING
NYC Triathlon

07/25 SATURDAY
DJ Stormin' Norman

07/26 SUNDAY
DJ Rob Scott

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, Secretary

Vera Sinnreich

Tyrone Cloud

Jose Rivera

Duane Reid

Sal Rentas

Lezly Ziering, President Emeritus

Bobbi Bongard:

Editing, Production

Happy 20th Birthday CPDSA

On the Fourth of July this year, the Central Park Dance Skaters will celebrate our 20th anniversary of hosting the Skate Circle in Central Park. In 1995, the newly elected Guiliani administration enacted a ban on Amplified sound in public without a police permit. At the same time the number of people allowed to congregate without a special events permit was cut from fifty to fifteen.

One beautiful warm Saturday morning in mid April, a task force of police and parks enforcement vehicles swarmed into the Dead Road. A police Sergeant told the skaters assembled there that they couldn't play music. Carlos Benitez, in the belief that we were living in a democracy, said: "They can't do that, this

is America." He turned on his radio and it was confiscated.

Police stayed and enforced the ban on music. After a week or two, we built a radio transmitter, hooked it up to a cassette player and listened to our music on radio Walkmen. We kept on skating even as months of negotiations dragged on. Finally, after the Pope's visit and sermon on the great lawn went unmarred by unauthorized music in the park, the atmosphere grew slightly less rigid.

The City saw that we were not going to give up, but we still had to convince them that we could run the Skate Circle in a responsible manner; following all park regulations and city statutes. Our first day, on July 4th, 1995 was a trial run. We had to jump through

a lot of legal hoops—special events and amplified sound permits are just the tip of the iceberg—but somehow we passed the test.

We have continued to roll and now we are three months into our twenty-first season. It is hard to believe so much time has passed. We still come out on weekends to skate and dance on skates. Today, instead of mix-tapes on cassettes, top New York DJs volunteer to play for us. We have friends and fans all over the world. Young kids, 80 year olds and all ages between, skate and dance with us. We don't come out to make money, we do it to spread some joy and light hearted happiness to all who pass by or who join us. We may seem a little crazy, but if we are, it is a good crazy.



CPDSA Skate Family, Memorial Day Weekend 2015



The Next Generation



The Next Generation



The Next Generation

Last Stop:



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>



Robin & Pete



Amy & Robert

The View from Skaters Road

by Bob Nichols, President, CPDSA

In April of 1995 we didn't know if we would be able to continue skating in the park. The new mayor had made campaign promises to clear the skaters out of the Dead Road area. Faced with that kind of threat, we banded together to fight for our right to skate. After all, we're New Yorkers, we don't let bullies win.

When the CPDSA was forming, we had many skaters and friends who joined with us in our struggle. Lezly Ziering and I were co-founders of the CPDSA. We were early spokesmen for the group in meetings with the City, on local radio and TV and in interviews for newspaper articles. The two of us have been part of the leadership from the beginning.

Brent Noseworthy was our first president. He negotiated the original agreement between the CPDSA and the Parks Department in 1995 and led the group in our first years. Gene Williams was the next president. During his tenure, our music was taken to a new level when DJs began playing live mixes for us at the Skate Circle.

Lezly took over the presidency next and remained in office until two years ago when he felt that he could no longer fulfill the demands of the job. Presidents are not the whole story, many others have contributed to the success of the CPDSA, all of them volunteers.

Each of us has done something that changed and improved our event or just kept it going. There is a long list of those volunteers, too long to fit in

this space, their work created our history.

Over the years we have gained the respect of admirers around the world. The Internet, e-mail, and social media have allowed skaters and tourists to write to us from all over the Earth. Those interactions are gratifying, but our main mission is to bring out the music and the infrastructure that makes the Skate Circle a safe and comfortable place to skate.

In order to continue what we do for the rest of this season and for the future, we need more volunteers to help us set up our equipment. Once the work is done, we skate and have fun until the end of the day when we break things down and put them away. This work is the very core of our event, it must be done for us to function.

It is essential for new people to learn how our system works. No one can be there every day and we need to share the responsibilities because there are times when someone new must take over. If the CPDSA is going to survive in the future; new people must get involved.

The CPDSA has been grandfathered in for significant privileges not enjoyed by others due to our continuous operation over the past twenty-one seasons. If we want to retain these privileges, we must not falter. If we don't use them, we will lose them. It is up to you to get involved and continue our legacy of joyful rollerskating in Central Park.

The Skate Circle Lives



DJ Andre Collins



DJ e



DJ Kervyn Mark

Thank You 2015 CPDSA New and Renewing Members

The CPDSA thanks these current 2015 members whose generosity allows us to keep rolling.

Adam Adam
Hector Alemany
Travis Austin
Bobbi Bongard
Gary L Bowler
Dave Britton
Kat Campbell
Rick Casalino
Kathy Cino
Terry & Collins
Darryl Davis
Lynna Davis
Bob Dea
Tom Dowling
Janis
Janice Brian J. Doyle

Richard Epsein
Marcia Estevez
Peggy Flefle
Regine Gilbert
Jeff Goldberg & Miyuki Koga
Neal Goldman
Richard Hassard
Rita Infante
Sinean Kamagate
Michael Katz
Karen Ann King Artemis
Koprulu
Murat Koprulu
Dimitri LaFortunne
Gary Lesser
Pamela Lobdell

Steve Love
Judy Lynn
Bobby Morales
Neil Meredith Jr
Wilie Morales
Gail Brillhart Myrick
Justin Myrick
Stephen Myrick
Roscoe & Linda Parker
Alan Pfeifer
Robin Ostrow
Amy Rea
Lisa Reich
Connie Reynolds
Jamie Rivera
Regina Rider

Jose Rivera
Todd Roberge
Zulma Rodriguez
Lorraine Sanchez
Ami & Ayu Soga
Jennifer Struck
Julie Tan
Dalys "Panama" Torres
Tanya Valle
Mark & Lee Wolf
Tom Winslow
Bob Wollner
Danuta Zakrzewska
Bartosz Zakrzewski



CPDSA staff



Pamela

Photos: © 2015 by Bob Dea

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
421 West 56th Street – 2A
New York, NY 10019