

Thank You 2019 CPDSA New and Renewing Members
The CPDSA thanks these current 2019 members whose generosity allows us to keep rolling.

Table with 5 columns of member names: Laura Zygas, Robert Mattias, Dalys 'Panama' Torres, Valerie Brochard, Betty Gonzalez, Danny Blanco, Theresa Allen, Ryan Eckman, Robin Ostrow, Ileana Adamos, Diana Pergamo, Jeffrey Goldberg, Meukey Koga, Gail Myrick, Stephen Myrick, Justin Myrick, Tracie Jayne Mitchell, Tommy McInnis, Dena Soukieh, Rick Casalino, Karen McQuiston, Emilia Bruzzo, Alexander Bruzzo, Adam Adam, David Linton, Christopher White, Richie Spivack, Dave Britton, Nancy Nacim Valdes, Jessie Sholl, Leonard Blair, Howard Bromley, Suzanne Max, Robert Sherman, Samuel Franco, Audrey Tyrka, Richard Epstein, Roz Reich, Mark Merschen, Nancy Mindes, Greg Thorpe, Bob Wollner, Robert Mattias, Liz Trout, Brett Kassof, Phil Cohen, Andre Chin, Carla McKenney, Terry & Janice Collins, Deborah Maggio, Chris Burchsted, Gary Bowler, Jackie Vargas, Chris Burchsted, Gary Bowler, Monique Van Grinsven, Regine Gilbert.



Curtis



Susanne



Jose & Parrot

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CPDSA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____ Date ____/____/____ Member # _____

Work or Cell Phone _____

E-mail _____

Contribution:

Form with checkboxes for contribution amounts: \$25, \$50, \$100, Other, and membership type: 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

Central Park DANCE SKATERS ASSOCIATION
JULY 2019
VOL. 25 ISSUE 2

DJ SCHEDULE

Table with DJ schedule: 7/4 THURSDAY INDEPENDENCE DAY DJ Arson, 7/6 SATURDAY DJ Dracula & DJ Big Rob Martinez, 7/7 SUNDAY DJ KL, 7/13 SATURDAY DJ Andre Collins, 7/14 SUNDAY DJ Rob Scott, 7/20 SATURDAY NO SKATING -> New York Triathlon, 7/21 SUNDAY NO SKATING -> New York Triathlon, 7/27 SATURDAY DJ, 7/28 SUNDAY DJ DJ Frankie D.

THE CENTRAL PARK SKATE CIRCLE

takes place most Saturdays, Sundays and major holidays in 2019 from April 13th through October 27th. The music plays from 2:45 pm to 6:45 pm.

OFFICIAL CPDSA CONTACTS

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On the Web www.CPDSA.org
E-mail info@cpdsa.org

CPDSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bob Nichols, President
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Val Brochard: Editing, Production

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

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- CPDSA Fan Group

A Glimmer of Hope

As we prepare to celebrate the CPDSA's twenty fourth Birthday on the 4th of July, we find ourselves more in survival mode than in a party spirit. After only three months of trucking our equipment into the park, our volunteers and our bank account are almost exhausted. Of course, we are New Yorkers — so we don't give up.

At the beginning of the season we brought out a smaller audio system. We had to cut down on the skating area so that the music could be heard clearly. It wasn't as impressive as last year, but we had music and we could skate. As the months went on we slowly built up to the sound quality and the larger area of the Circle that our full system can provide.

One of the worst things was that we had to cut back our days in the park because of the expense of paying a trucker and the crushing work of loading and unloading. Also, on days when rain is possible, we

have usually had to cancel rather than risk damaging our sound equipment.

Most important, is the problem of finding a place where we can charge our batteries for eight or more hours. When our storage facility told us that we could no longer use their electricity, the situation looked pretty bleak.

Then something miraculous happened. One of our DJs — Rob Scott — volunteered to take our batteries and chargers to his facility and charge them for us. It was a gesture that shows the very best spirit of the Skate Circle. Now, other skaters have begun volunteering to help. Not for pay, but for love. We call ourselves the Skate Family and like any other family: when things get tough we all pitch in and work together. It's up to you, skaters; it's time to give back so that we can save the Skate Circle.



Easter Sunday Line Dancing



Kathy C



Rick



Ida

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: info@cpdsa.org



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Line Dancers



Ivan

The View from Skaters Road

by Bob Nichols, President, CPDSA

This has been one of the toughest seasons the CPDSA has ever faced in our 25 year history. We count our birthday as the 4h of July because when the Guiliani Administration finally let us come back to the park and play music out loud for our skating, we felt reborn.

In 1994, the Dinkins administration met with a group of skaters and began a relationship in which the organization would communicate with the Parks Department and let the skaters know when the Dead Road would be unavailable because of large sponsored events using the area. We were given special events permits listing the days we could be in the park.

In April of 1995, soon after Mayor Guiliani took office, a task force of police cars, parks enforcement and uniformed police stopped the skaters from playing music. Not even portable radios or small Ghetto Blasters were allowed. We were told that we could skate but that we could not play music. A few of us got together and formed the Central Park Dance Skaters Association. We were able to get legal council and began negotiations with the Parks Department and police. We also contacted one of our skaters who was an electronics whiz and asked if he could build us an FM transmitter. Within a week, we were testing the first model. At that time the Sony Walkman, both cassette player and FM receivers had just come out and were everywhere.

We made a sign and advertised Radio Free Central Park 87.5 FM. We played Mixtapes on a Walkman and sent the signal to the transmitter. Suddenly all of us could skate to the same music, even though no one who was not wearing headphones could hear it. The music held us together and kept us skating for the three months between April and July. Guiliani and his advisors never thought that we would be able to stay together without music. They did not count on us being stubborn New Yorkers who refused to be bullied, they didn't predict the FM transmitter either. Though we had to fight for it, the CPDSA was finally able to obtain the Special Events permits and Amplified Sound permits that allow us to operate legally to this day.

At that time, we were also allowed to store our gear and charge our batteries in the back area of what was then the Mineral Springs snack bar. We were also promised a recreational coating on the pavement of the North End of the Dead Road — the place we call Skaters Road. What we got instead was a toxic, carcinogenic creosote based driveway sealer, we could not skate there for a month until the fumes abated. It was a vindictive parting gift from the Guiliani administration.

We were able to continue storing our gear at Mineral Springs until a major renovation of the building, when “Le Pain Quotidien” took over the building and forced us out. At that time, in early 2002, we had to truck in our equipment from a storage room at 58th and 11th Ave for a number of months until Doug Blonsky honored the pledge to do everything possible to help us get space for storing our equipment. He got us space in the Bandshell for storage and charging our batteries. We were able to use that space until this year.

Ironically, we have been negotiating with the Conservancy to have a recreational surface put down on the North End of the Dead Road, that would be paid for by donations from a few celebrities who are friendly with one of our skaters. This goal seemed possible after all these years until the bid that came in from the Conservancy was for \$81,000. This figure is about ten times the quotes given to our skater by some reputable park contractors in Brooklyn.

With our current difficulties, just trying to hold the Skate Circle together and keep it operating this year, we are hardly in a position to mount a fundraising campaign for the kind of money that the Conservancy is asking for from us to do this work.

It is hard to know what forces are lined up against us, but it seems pretty obvious that our old friends at the Conservancy no longer see us as a valued asset for Central Park and would prefer to have us fade away.

The Skate Circle Lives!



DJ Q



DJ Duce Martinez



DJ Frankie Dee