

OCTOBER 2007

Newsletter of Western Star Dancers, a contemporary American square dance club primarily serving the San Francisco LGBT community. International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs member.

Don't Stop! Don't Slow Down!

SAN FRANCISCO

WESTERN STAR DANCERS

1982-2007

25th Anniversary

The



Western Star

Contact us at:

www.westernstardancers.org

OR 584 Castro Street #480

San Francisco, CA 94114



YEAR OF THE ORANGE

The Orange Mainstream Class of 2008 is squaring up for an exciting year of instruction, dancing, and good times.

One of our primary recruitment events is Sunday, October 7, at the Castro Street Fair. Again this year, our booth will be at the corner of 18th Street and Hartford. Rich Reel will be calling several tips throughout the afternoon. Come and join the fun, as you support the club.

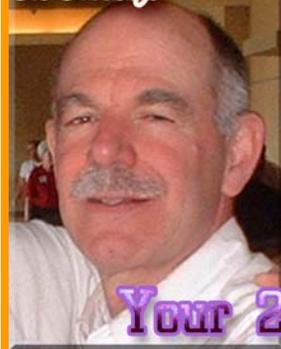
Thanks to the efforts of Grey Todd, we will host our first Free Intro Night on Columbus Day, October 8 at Magnet (4211-18th Street between the parking lot behind Walgreen's and the shoe store) from 7:30-9:30 pm. Due to the holiday, Eureka Valley Rec Center is dark, so Grey's help permits us to have our first night in a very public location.

Our second Free Intro Night will be back at EVRC on Monday, October 15 from 7:30-9:30 pm. The official start date for the Orange Class is October 22. Rich Reel is again our caller/instructor this year, an auspicious omen of good time ahead.

This year we are reviving the new students' welcoming potluck. It will be held on Monday, November 12, Veteran's Day (another day EVRC is dark) at Miriam Mueller's home (321 Elsie Street). See elsewhere in this issue for details. There will be no Club Night in November because it would fall on the evening before Thanksgiving, not a good time to attract a square of dancers.

Angels will be needed to assist the new dancers. If more than four squares of dancers show up, we will have to get creative in making space in EVRC. That would be a good problem to have!

Bob Brundage



Daryl Daniels



Jim Dewsnap



Paul Gonyea



Kathy Tuccio



Your 2008 Western Star Dancers Board of Directors

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Don't Stop! Don't Slow Down!





ADVERTISEMENT

Ringing in the Orange Year
Red Year fondly remembered
for spirited class and WSD
Silver Anniversary

Easing into autumn, we prepare to welcome the new Mainstream class as we proudly watch the Plus Class graduates transition into Angels. There was a special year full of festive events as WSD celebrated the Silver Anniversary.

To chronicle this unique era and those enthusiastic personalities that made it exciting, an electronic yearbook was commissioned to cover all of the events with an abundance of photographs and video clips. At no cost to the club, donations were made by the Brenda Line Foundation so that every Plus graduate would receive the souvenir yearbook as a free gift and memento of the anniversary year.

A special thank you to those who worked on the yearbook: Editor Gary, and helpers Russ and Kathy.

Angel in the Vanguard

On August 21, Dani became the first of the first-time graduates from the Red Class to spread her angel wings and increase her floor time by helping out new dancers at local clubs.



Dubious Achievement Award

Steve was invested into The Order of the Two Left Feet, an annual recognition given to that person who best exemplifies the spirit of the left footprints.

Scientific Breakthrough!
Dr. Seed's Secret Tonsorial Formula

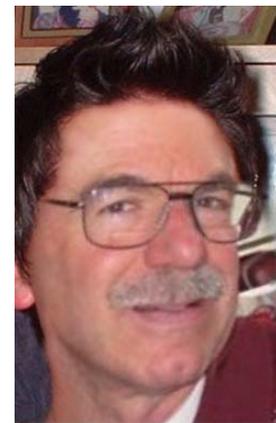
Have you ever wished that you could have Michael Hair? With Dr. Stanley Seed's patented formula, you too can have Michael Hair.

CELEBRITY ENDORSEMENTS



Tips from Eloise

With Michael Hair, you can get into any twink bar or underground dance club. No waiting in lines, no snide remarks from burly bouncers.

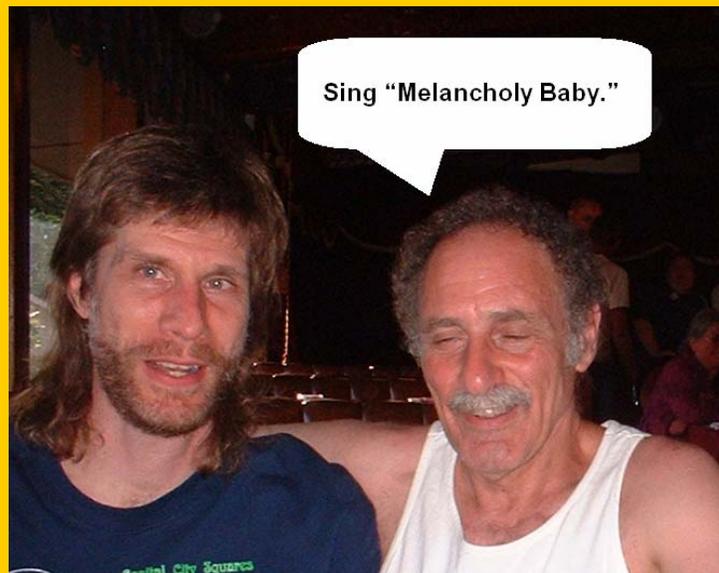


Bouffant Bob

With Michael Hair, anyone can know the joyous sound of Todd's soap bubbles as they pop atop the pointy mane.

Michael Hair in a Bottle can change your life!
"There's Something about Michael!"

HALF-SASHAYED by Natty Box *Featuring Rich and Tony*





THANKS TO STEVE SCOTT & DARYL DANIELS FOR THE PHOTOS

Don't Stop! Don't Slow Down!
SAN FRANCISCO
WESTERN STAR DANCERS
1982-2007
25th Anniversary

CIRCULATE SIF 2007
AUGUST 18, 2007

A Giant Double Rainbow

by dan smith

D: What are your names?

S: Susan Grieger. I was born in Detroit Michigan.

C: I'm Carol Cook and I was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

D: Tell me about your early lives.

S: Dad was in the arm Forces so we moved around a lot. I went to three different kindergartens. My high school graduation was held in Heidelberg Castle and I started collage at The American Collage in Paris which is now The American University in Paris. Living in Paris as a young woman was wonderful. I transferred to the University of Michigan after returning home.

C: My parents were born in Pennsylvania. Her family were Sicilian, his German and English. I went to the same school through high school. It is an agricultural area so a lot of kids drop out before graduation. I didn't feel at home in school until I got to Millersville State Collage. I went to Graduate School in Madison Wisconsin and have a double major in German and Russian. A gay friend, Tom, and I were really involved in folk dancing the whole time we were in collage.

D: So after collage what happened to you?

S: After collage I married a Turkish man who was abusive and I endured 25 years of marriage with him but I had three wonderful sons from the marriage so I don't regret that. Their names are Deniz, Zeki and Nafi. Zeki has an 11 year old son and he and his wife are expecting another son in January; my first two grandchildren.

C: I came to California 30 years ago and got married. My husband and I were active in the Sierra Club and we did folk dancing at Sierra Singles in Palo Alto. We also went English Country Dancing. He has since died.

D: Tell us how your relationship developed.

S: We're Librarians in fact that's how we met back in 87.

C: I hired her to work for me. In collage most of my friends were gay men. I really felt at home with them but it hadn't occurred to me that I might also enjoy being lesbian and being with gay women. When I finally came out to myself at 45 I wondered, "Who should I tell first; this friend or that?" I picked Susan.

S: She told me just as I was deciding to file for divorce. I said, "Well I'm really glad you told me this but that isn't the way I feel, I hope we can still be friends."

C: I said, "Of course we can, but if you ever change your mind be sure to let me know first."

S: She recruited me! I called her the next day.

D: And how long have you been together?

S: It was 14 years ago at the beginning of gay pride month. So that's one of our Anniversaries.

C: Another Anniversary was on February 13 when we got married. That morning the radio said that people were lined up at City hall. I said, "Susan they're still getting married. Do you want to get married?"

S: We took BART and got in the city about noon. The energy was just wonderful. Everybody was so helpful and there were a lot of children around including toddlers and babies and nobody was

crying even though they were waiting in this line for 3 and 4 hours. I've never seen so many happy children.

C: It amazing how the kids were all so serene given how many of them there were and how long they were waiting. That was really exciting. Then on the way home we saw a double rainbow.

S: That ceremony was followed on June 19th by a ceremony at our church with a hundred of our friends and relatives. My three sons and their girlfriends were there. And unbeknownst to me, my sister had her cell phone going throughout the service so that my Mother in Michigan, who was unable to come, was able to listen to it.

D: Tell me about your first experience with Western Star.

S: That was on the Monday after Western Star's 25th Anniversary. We're sorry we missed that but you gave us star dangles anyway. We



wear them on our badges and get a lot of questions from people, "Oh, what did you get the dangles for?"

D: For a dance we didn't go to. (Both women laugh)

C: Western Star is a very warm and friendly place. We didn't feel like a stranger even though we were strangers. We weren't even members the first few months we came.

S: One nice thing was it was really great to know the faces before we went to the convention in Denver. We saw Crossfire there. We thought, "Well we've met those people."

C: We went to the Crossfire party here and have a Crossfire DVD set. We showed it to a tenant, a young gay man, and he just loved it He said that it just looked like those were really great people. There are just so many square dancing opportunities here. We have both El Cameo Reelers and Western Star. Rich is our caller in both clubs. He's just such a great person and so is his partner, Tony.

S: Looking back at our lives before we came out to ourselves; it was kind of sheltered and narrow and boring compared to the way it is now.

C: The gay life is much gayer. They don't call it gay for nothing.

D: Thank you very very much.

S:C: Well thank you very much.

Pirate Baubles

Pirate Grub

Arrrr!

Don't Stop! Don't Slow Down!
SAILORS
WESTERN STAR SAILORS
25th Anniversary

PIRATES AND SAILORS



Welcome
Potluck for the **Orange**
2008 **Mainstream**
Class

Monday, November 12
(Veteran's Day - EVRC Dark)
7-9:30 PM

Members should
bring food

At the home of
Miriam Mueller
321 Elsie Street
(8 Cortland Avenue)
(Muni 24-Divisadero)

Don't Stop! Don't Slow Down!
SAN FRANCISCO
WESTERN STAR RIDERS
1982-2007
25th Anniversary

Meeting Minutes

The Board of Directors meeting minutes are published in order to keep club members informed of the affairs of the club.. Oral or written comments may be directed to any board member. Members are welcome to attend board meetings.

July 16, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Administrator Daryl Daniels with all Board members present. Daniels praised the club for the success of both the Pride Dance and the Angel Island picnic and discussed plans for the upcoming Circulate San Francisco (August 18). We have tentative permission to use Magnet for our Mainstream Class 'free intro night' on October 18 (Columbus Day) since EVRC will be closed.

October Club Night (because of a conflict with the auditorium at EVRC) is still up in the air. Class pricing was discussed. Mainstream class will remain \$100 (\$50 for re-takers) and Plus class will be \$70 (\$35 for re-takers).

Daniels reported that representatives of Foggy City Dancers and Midnight Squares have spoken to him about the possibility of San Francisco submitting a bid for the 2013 IAGSDC Convention. It will be on the agenda for the General Meeting in September.

The theme for the Leather and Lace dance will be Pirates and Sailors. A potluck for new members has been tentatively scheduled for Nov. 12 (in lieu of November Club Night which falls on the night before Thanksgiving).

We have applied to the Petersen Fund again this year to help defray expenses for our booth at the Castro Street Fair.

The Treasurers report was accepted. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

August 13, 2007

The meeting was called to order by Administrator Daryl Daniels at 6:42 p.m. with all members present. The minutes of the July meeting were approved. Final plans for Circulate San Francisco (8/28) were discussed.

Daniels reported that he will post an agenda for the September Membership Meeting prior to the event so that members have a chance to consider the two issues that will be brought before them: (1) shall annual membership fees be raised from \$36 to \$40, and (2) shall WSD participate in the planning for submitting a bid for the 2013 IAGSDC convention in San Francisco.

Plans for the Leather & Lace dance with a Pirates & Sailors theme were discussed. Also discussed was the Castro Street Fair booth and Orange Class recruiting. The Treasurers report was accepted.

The Events Coordinator reported that the New Members Pot Luck will be held at Miriam Mueller's home on November 12 since the EVRC will be closed for Veterans Day. The next Board meeting is scheduled for September 17. The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.



DIABLO DANCERS
www.diablo-dancers.org
 Class Night - Tuesdays
 1700 Oak Park Boulevard
 Pleasant Hill

El Camino Reelers
www.reelers.org
 Class Night - Wednesday
 St. Andrew's Methodist
 4111 Alma Street
 Palo Alto

Other Bay Area Square Dance Clubs

FOGGY CITY DANCERS
 SAN FRANCISCO • CALIFORNIA
www.foggycity.org
 Class Night - Tuesdays
 Studio 204
 3435 Cesar Chavez
 San Francisco

MIDNIGHT SQUARES
 SAN FRANCISCO
www.iagsdc.org/midnightsquares/
 A & G Programs
 See website for classes & locations
 San Francisco

Oaktown 8's
www.oaktown8s.org
 Class Night - Wednesday
 Montclair Women's
 Cultural Arts Club
 1650 Mountain Boulevard
 Oakland

October 5-7	PACE Ross Howell caller. Friday 7:30 pm A2, Saturday 11 am & 2:30 pm C2, 7:30 pm C4, Sunday 11 am C3A, 2:30 pm C3. Diablo Light Opera Co. 1948 Oak Park Boulevard, Pleasant Hill
October 7	Castro Street Fair – Join us at our booth at 18 th Street & Hartford. Rich Reel calling
October 8 7:30-9:30 PM	Orange Mainstream Free Intro Night at Magnet, 4211 18 th Street. Bring your friends
October 15 7:30-9:30 PM	Orange Mainstream Free Intro Night at EVRC
October 17 7:30-9:30 PM	Club Night: Paul's Dance Experience. EVRC
October 22 7:30-9:30 PM	Official Orange Mainstream Class Start EVRC
October 27 7-10 PM	Oaktown 8's <i>Pass the Pumpkin</i> MS/P/A* \$8/\$10 Redwood Heights Elementary School, 4401 39 th Avenue, Oakland
November 3 7-10 PM	Foggy City Dancers <i>24th Anniversary Dance</i> Mike DeSisto caller. MS/P/A* \$8/\$10 Location TBA
November 9-11	PACE Ett McAtee caller. Friday 7:30 pm A2, Saturday 11 am & 2:30 pm C1, 7:30 pm C4 Sunday 11 am C3A, 2:30 pm C3. Diablo Light Opera Co. 1948 Oak Park Boulevard, Pleasant Hill
November 12 7:00-9:30 PM	Potluck Welcoming the new Orange Class. Mimi Mueller's, 321 Elsie Street Members bring food. (in lieu of November Club Night)
November 10	El Camino Reelers <i>Trade by Fall</i> St. Andrew's Methodist Church, 4111 Alma Street, Palo Alto
November 17	Prime 8's & Capital City Squares <i>Capital City Squares 20th Anniversary Dance</i> Mike Kellogg caller. 2:30 5:30 pm A/C* 7-10 pm MS/P/New Afternoon \$7 Evening \$8 Central United Methodist Church, 5265 "H" Street, Sacramento
December 1	Diablo Dancers <i>Relay the Reindeer</i> Dave Mee caller. MS/P/A \$8/\$10 Jewish Community Center, 2071 Tice Valley Boulevard, Walnut Creek

For the latest dance information, check www.bayareadancecalendar.org
 National & International events can be found at www.iagsdc.com Click on *Events*



**New Square Dance
Class Starting
★ Class Starting
★ FOR FREE**



**TRY IT FOR FREE
★ Western Star Dancers
★ TWO FREE NIGHTS**

**ONLY
\$100
Retakers
\$50**



**October 8 - 7:30-9:30 pm
Magnet - 4122-18th Street**
**October 15 - 7:30-9:30 pm
Eureka Valley Rec Center
100 Collingwood Street**
**Mainstream (Beginning) Class Official Start
October 22, 2007 - 7:30-9:30 pm
Eureka Valley Recreation Center**

**Two left feet? No problem.
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from your left?**

**A wide variety of music
Country, Disco, Rock, you name it!**
**Good physical exercise
With several opportunities to dance
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**Warm, friendly folks
Gay, Lesbian, Trans, Bi, Straight,
and everything in between**

**LOTS OF HUGS
The #1 benefit of square dancing**



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