



February 2009

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.

Contact us at:
www.westernstardancers.org
OR 584 Castro Street #480
San Francisco, CA 94114

The Western Star

MARDI GRAS THE PURPLE GLASS REUNION



February is a time to spy on groundhogs, honor presidents, and send valentines. This year, it is also a time to celebrate Mardi Gras and the WSD Purple Class Reunion. The legacy of the Purple Class continues to benefit the club through the contributions of

musicians, vocalists, Board members, dance decorators, amateur callers, volunteers, financial donators and angels. The members of the Red Class will serve as hosts to their mentors with an evening of Mardi Gras festivities. The Krewe of the Two Left Feet will sponsor a special segment honoring the Purple Class; and the Klub Knight Krewe, along with the Krewe of Kazoo, will present a Cavalcade of Western Star Characters. A variety of surprises might include video clips from purple days gone by, a new door-prize game, guest singers, specialty dancing, a free raffle, and New Orleans delicacies; and, of course, the appearance of the Mardi Gras King and his court. Michael Levy, who impressed us all with his beautiful singing at the Interclub Social, will be calling the class-level and Plus tips. This is a rare opportunity for us to demonstrate our appreciation to our valued Purple Class alumni. Be there, be square, and let the good time roll!



Wednesday, February 18, 7:30 pm, EVRC



Board of Directors 2009

Michael Albert
sfmichael@att.net
Clarence Albert-Franks
clarencfranks@att.net
Bob Brundage
bernalbob1@gmail.com
Gary Cohn
allemander@usa.com
Daryl Daniels
daryldaniels@sbcglobal.net
Mark Nida
mark@nidacoach.com
Kathy Tuccio
ktuccio@hotmail.com

Warning!
Membership Renewals are PAST due.

Don't miss out on club mailings, newsletters, dance discounts

Keep your club healthy!

Forms are available at
www.westernstardancers.org

Thank You

To those who included a donation with their membership renewal

Bob Brundage
Rick Collins
Carol Cook
Paul Gonyea
Susan Grieger
Russ King
Richard Leadbetter
Craig Olson
Steve Scott
Matt Thomson
Todd Young

EXHIBITIONIST WSD Red Plus Class member Jamie Kravitz

Jamie has ventured into various forms of artistic expression, and is still at it. When he was younger (and more flexible) he performed modern dance with choreographers Rudy Perez and Naomi Goldberg, and was co-artistic director of the New Moves Dance Company at the University of Michigan. A lifelong lover of film and video, he has written and produced a number of documentary films, including the award-winning "Into the Streets" (2001), and was editor on the acclaimed "Hearts Cracked Open" (2004), which has been shown around the world in film festivals. Jamie is pleased to present new ventures into painting and photographic works.



In November, Jamie participated in an "art party" exhibit with some of his work colleagues. "This was a chance for those of us who work in the not-always-so-exciting world of enterprise and retail web design to show another side of our creativity, in the form of paintings, photographs, and a few installations." WSD members who attended the gallery showing were delighted by Jamie's paintings and photographs.

LEFT: Marilyn and Jamie share fashion tips during Blue Hawaii club night, July 2008.



RIGHT: Jamie with one of his paintings.

Western Star Art Gallery A special club night has been tentatively scheduled for this summer where attendees will have the opportunity to view displays of the artwork of WSD members. Any members who would like to exhibit their sketches, paintings, photography, quilts, pottery, crafts, etc. are invited to contact Dan, Elise or Gary to reserve exhibition space and arrange a means of display. There is plenty of time for those who have never tried to be creative to produce something.

THE ANGEL IN YOUR CORNER "Angel Bear" Peter Camarda

Class members often notice "Angels" with a badge from a different club. WSD is fortunate to have graduates of other clubs help to fill out a square. Peter is originally from New York, but has lived in SF since 1982. "I really appreciate the healthy atmosphere that square dancing provides for getting to know people. I have been very impressed by the friendliness and creativity of Western Star Dancers—the club really makes social activities a big part of its program. I particularly enjoyed the



"I am a 'Bear,' so I am very glad that all the clubs provide so much wonderful food as part of the entertainment at their events!"

"I graduated Mainstream and Plus with Foggy City in 2005, just in time to attend the July convention in Santa Clara: *Star thru the Silicon Galaxy*. It was a blast. I was so fortunate that the first convention was right here in the Bay Area, and I didn't have to buy a plane ticket."

"I like being an 'Angel.' I was so awkward and unsure when I first took the classes. I really love being able to help people out now, and having the experience to seem as if I really know what I am doing. I am smoother as a dancer now than I was before! And I also enjoy the friendly energy of Rich Pool. I look forward to more fun with



Holiday Party



Interclub Holiday Social



Mad Hatter Club Night



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.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors

November 17, 2008 All Members Present

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 6:36 PM. **Review of the Minutes of October 12, 2008** – The minutes were reviewed and approved as presented. **Review of the Annual Meeting minutes – September 17, 2008** – The minutes were reviewed and approved as presented. **WSD T-shirts** – Daryl reported he needed a few more orders to meet the minimum. The Board approved ordering 5 caps for door prizes or for use as gifts. **Holiday Party, December 17, 2008** – The Board discussed different ways of structuring the gift exchange to help that portion of the evening go more smoothly than in the past. **EVRC Holiday Gift** – The Board approved the usual \$150 Safeway gift card for the EVRC staff. **Club Publicity** – The Board discussed the ARTS – Dance Education Grant Program and ways it could help WSD publicity. **Reports: Treasurer** – Bob Brundage – The Board reviewed the report presented by Bob Brundage and approved it. Total assets as of November 17, 2008 are \$5,742.37. **Class Coordinator** – Michael Albert – Michael reported the Yellow Class was proceeding well with nine new class members. There are 14 total in the class. **Dance Coordinator** – Clarence Albert-Franks – no report **Club Night Coordinator** – Gary Cohn – no report **Outreach Coordinator** – Mark Nida – no report **Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 7:16 PM. The next meeting will be December 15, 2008 at 6:15 PM.



Don't Stop!
San Francisco
WESTERN STAR DANCERS
Don't Slow Down!

PLUS WORKSHOP

If you're a Plus dancer looking for an opportunity to dance Plus for the entire evening, sharpening your skills and expanding your dance experience, join us for Plus Workshop.

Our guest caller Harlan Kerr provides instruction and new perspectives to this workshop. Each workshop is different and Harlan responds to the immediate needs of the participants whether it's the Spin Chain series, Relay the Deucey or dancing in a sashayed position that presents challenges.

So, come and keep your square dancing alive and active and be ready to have a great time!

LAST WEDNESDAY EVERY MONTH
7:30 - 9:30 PM

EUREKA VALLEY REC CENTER
100 COLLINGWOOD STREET
SAN FRANCISCO

\$5 DONATION REQUESTED

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
WWW.WESTERNSTARDANCERS.ORG

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors December 15, 2008 All Members Present

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 6:25 PM. **Review of the Minutes of November 17, 2008** – The minutes were reviewed and approved as presented. **EVRC Holiday Gift** – Kathy Tuccio reported the \$150 Safeway gift card was delivered to for the EVRC staff. **Holiday Party, December 17, 2008** – The Board discussed final plans for the annual party. **IAGSDC Representative** – The Board approved Lorenzo Taylor to represent WSD as the IAGSDC representative and the club representative to the local convention committee. **MLK Potluck** – Mimi Mueller has generously offered her house for the potluck on January 19th at 7PM. Bob Brundage has volunteered to help organize the event. **Reports: Treasurer** – Bob Brundage – The Board reviewed the report presented by Bob Brundage and approved it. Total assets as of December 15, 2008 are \$4,979.77. **Class Coordinator** – Michael Albert – Michael reported the Yellow Class was continuing to proceed well



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

FOGG CITY DANCERS
www.foggcity.org
See Website for info
Sanchez School
325 Sanchez Street
San Francisco

REELERS
www.reelers.org
Class Night–Wednesday
St. Andrew's Methodist
4111 Alma Street
Palo Alto

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


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

Other Bay Area Square Dance Clubs

with strong Angel participation. There are regularly 3-4 squares attending. **Dance Coordinator** – Clarence Albert-Franks – Kathy will assist Clarence with booking the Pride Dance and construct a spreadsheet to track the callers booked for future dances. Michael and/or Clarence will contact Randy at Ebenezer Lutheran to confirm 2009 dance dates. **Club Night Coordinator** – Gary Cohn – Gary discussed the January club night hosted by Michael and Clarence. The theme is “Mad Hatter” and hats will be encouraged. **Outreach Coordinator** – Mark Nida – no report **Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 6:48 PM. The next meeting will be January 12, 2009 at 6:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Tuccio, Co-Com & Secretary

Dance Calendar

February 7, 2009 2:00 - 5:00 pm	Midnight Squares Membership Appreciation Dance Barry Clasper A2/C1/C2/C3A* 2009 paid members – FREE/\$8/\$10 Ebenezer Lutheran Church, 678 Portola Drive, San Francisco
February 7, 2009 7:00 - 10:00 pm	Foggy City Dancers Valentine's Dance Barry Clasper Ebenezer Lutheran Church, 678 Portola Drive, San Francisco
February 16	Presidents Day NO CLASS EVRC closed
February 18, 2009 7:30-9:30 pm	Mardi Gras Club Night Michael Levy caller EVRC
February 20-22, 2009	PACE Sandie Bryant caller. Friday 7:30 pm A2, Saturday 11 am & 2:30 pm C1 Sunday 11 am C3A, 2:30 pm C3. Fairmeadow Elementary School, 500 East Meadow, Palo Alto
February 21, 2009	Capital City Squares & Prime 8's Red, White & Rowdy, A Post-Presidential Holiday Bash Eric Henerlau 2:30 - 5:30 p.m. A1/A2/C1* 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Dinner 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. MS/P/A1* \$9 - Afternoon \$9 - Evening Bell Avenue School, 1900 Bell Avenue, Sacramento
February 25, 2009 7:30-9:30 pm	Double Plus Wednesday Harlan Kerr caller \$5 EVRC
February 28, 2009 7:30 - 10:30 pm	El Camino Reelers 3/4 Through Winter Vic Ceder P/A/MS class level \$8/\$10 St. Andrews Methodist Church, 4111 Alma St., Palo Alto
March 13-15, 2009	PACE Vic Ceder 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
March 18, 2009 7:30-9:30 pm	Shamrock Shake Club Night John Kenny caller EVRC
March 21, 2009 7:30 - 10:30 pm	Diablo Dancers Flip the Flowers Mike Desisto MS/P/A \$8/\$10 Jewish Community Center. 2071 Tice Valley Blvd., Walnut Creek
March 25, 2009 7:30-9:30 pm	Double Plus Wednesday Harlan Kerr caller \$5 EVRC
March 28, 2009 7:30 - 10:30 pm	Western Star Dancers Anniversary Dance Paul Waters MS/P/A* \$8/\$10 Ebenezer Lutheran Church, 678 Portola Drive San Francisco
	April 9-12, 2009 IAGSDC 26th Annual Convention Anne Uebelacker, Betsy Gotta, Deborah Carroll-Jones, Ett McAtee, John Marshall, Mike Jacobs, Sandie Bryant, Tim Crawford, Tom Miller, Lynette Bellini, Barry Clasper and Dayle Hodge; Mainstream through C4; Washington, DC
For the latest dance information, check NorCalDanceCalendar.org National & International events can be found at www.iagsdc.com Click on Events	

Marilynn Fowler February 2

Albert Sammons February 28

Russ King March 7

Dan Smith March 7

Donald Robertson February 4

Brandon Lee February 28

Mark Yee March 3

Steve Huggins March 26

David Holloway February 8

Kathy Healy March 31

Joe Casserly February 12

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**BOLDLY GO INTO
THE FINAL FRONTIER**



**SQUARES
IN
SPACE**

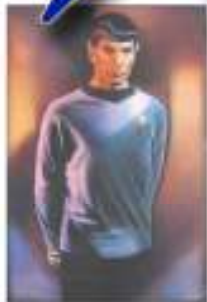


**SATURDAY
MARCH 28, 2009**

7:30-10:30 PM

EBENEZER

**LUTHERAN CHURCH
678 PORTOLA DRIVE
SAN FRANCISCO**



**PAUL
WATERS
CALLER**

**SPACE/ALIEN/FUTURISTIC
ATTIRE SUGGESTED
NOT REQUIRED**



**WESTERN STAR DANCERS
27TH ANNIVERSARY DANCE**