



APRIL 2009

The Western Star

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

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

Pride, Hope & Good Vibrations

Pride & Hope is the theme of this year's Western Star Dancers Pride Dance on June 27th. The phenomenal Anne Uebelacker from Vancouver will grace the stage of Ebenezer Lutheran Church as our caller. This will be an event to remember.

The Board has accepted an invitation from Good Vibrations, local purveyor of therapeutic and feel good products. "Good Vibrations is gearing up for San Francisco Pride, and we would love to collaborate with Western Star Dancers!

This year, we're going with a country western theme and having a "Ho-Down" float that will cruise up Market Street. Our fabulous float will include Dr. Carol Queen, along with some of our vendors and a live (amplified) country band, complete with hay bales and thematic décor. I don't know if you already have something planned, but we're looking to have a variety of LGBT square dancers dance on and around the float. This wouldn't require any money from you, just participation and good cheer. We would of course be happy to display your banner."

We will have an organizational meeting on Thursday, June 18th at 6:30 pm at The Good Vibrations Polk Street Gallery (1620 Polk Street (at Sacramento Street)). You can contact Kathy Tuccio to volunteer to dance and wheel guard. We will also have sign-up sheets available at EVRC.

No matter how you celebrate it, Pride 2009 will be a feel good event.

Yellow Mainstream Class Completion

You are invited to join in welcoming the Yellow Class of 2009 into the club upon their Class Completion. These dancers are energetic, enthusiastic, and talented.

The Board of Directors would also like to use this opportunity to get a 2009 "sort of official" club photo. Although several Western Star Dancers attended the convention in DC, this is an excellent opportunity to gather the extended family for a photo. Club attire preferred, but not necessary.

Monday, April 20 7:30-9:30 pm EVRC
Friends & Family Welcome!

Please bring party foods to share



BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2009

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SPECIAL ELECTION TO FILL BOARD VACANCIES

Clarence Franks and Michael Albert-Franks have had to step down from our Board due to unexpected demands on their time in other areas, so we now have two vacant Board positions, and will be holding a Special Election to fill them. If you are interested in running or have questions, please contact a current member of the Board (Kathy/Daryl/Mark N./Gary/Bob) or a member of the Election Committee, which now consists of

Steve Scott (sscott@ggrc.org or 415-861-1447) and
Mimi Mueller (mimimueller@juno.com or 415-648-6062).

Some of your questions may be answered by consulting our Club By-Laws, which are posted on our website--click the "View Archive" box in the upper right-hand corner of the home page to go directly to the link. *The deadline for submitting your name in nomination will be the April 6 Class Night; if you do it via phone or email, please do so no later than 6:00 pm that evening.*

Our club could not function, and would not exist today, without the hard work that many of us have put in over the years through Board service. If you have some extra time in your schedule, please do consider joining this essential group of Western Star members.

My Heart Belongs to Dani

Betsy Ross, that little sew-and-sew, wouldn't be able to hold a candle to Western Star's Dani and her textile creations. An enthusiastic quilter, Dani has shared her talents for stitchery by creating a series of pennants to commemorate the class reunions. The Blue Pennant was unfurled last year, and the Purple Pennant debuted during the Mardi Gras parade. Dani has also donated fabrics and contributed her skills to make some of the costumes worn at club nights. Several colorful aprons were first seen at Oktoberfest. Dani's creations also graced the Mardi Gras and the Shamrock Shake.



Homecoming Princess Ron posed with the Blue Class Pennant



Dani was awarded The Purple Heart

Dani also works her magic by making subtle changes to the dance hall. Most dancers do not even realize that sometimes non-theme elements in the room have disappeared, such as when the entire Senior Citizens bulletin board was hidden behind a more appropriate fabric wall hanging. During the Purple Class Reunion, Steve Scott, representing The Order of the Two Left Feet, acknowledged Dani's contributions to the reunions as she was given The Purple Heart as a token of appreciation.



Dani and Elise

Club night Stage Manager Elise wore the Orange Class apron when she served as an Oktoberfest Barmaid. Behind Elise is one of Dani's subtle atmosphere-enhancing wall coverings.

HALF-SASHAYED

by Natty Box



"It is only our ability to accessorize that separates us from the apes."





PM. The next meeting will be February 9, 2009 at 6:15 PM.

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

January 12, 2009 All Members Present.

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 6:15 PM. **Review of the Minutes of December 15, 2008**– The minutes were reviewed and approved as presented. **Holiday Party, December 17, 2008** – The annual party was a success. Steve Scott did a wonderful job as Master of Ceremonies. In the process of introducing members as they chose their gifts, Steve described their personal history with WSD and the ways in which they are serving the club. **MLK Day Pot Luck at Mimi's** – Bob reported on the plans for the upcoming pot luck at Mimi's. **Anniversary Dance** – Joe and Todd have ideas for a theme which they will disclose soon. **Yard Sale** – The Board deferred this discussion to a later date. **Online Photo Sharing** – Daryl reported on an online service called "Flicker". For a \$25 fee the club could store its many photos of events that could be viewed from a link on our website. The Board approved the \$25 and directed Daryl to proceed with Flicker. **Treasurer** – Bob Brundage - The Board reviewed the report presented by Bob Brundage and approved it. Total assets as of January 2009 are \$4,824.79. **Class Coordinator** – Michael Albert – Nothing new to report; class is proceeding on schedule. **Pride Dance** – Kathy reported difficulty finding a caller at a late date. As an alternative, the Board discussed doing a GCA benefit dance modeled after the "Inter Club" Holiday Party focusing on our pride in local gay callers. Kathy will discuss with John Kenny and report back. **Club Night Coordinator** – Gary Cohn – Clarence updated the Board regarding the January club night he and Michael are hosting. The theme is "Mad Hatter" and Lee Griffiths is scheduled to call. Gary also discussed the February club night "Mardi Gras". He asked Kathy to book Michael Levy. **Outreach Coordinator** – Mark Nida – Mark is working on getting the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence to attend a special intro class later in the year. **Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 7:05

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors

February 9, 2009–Gary Cohn, Mark Nida, Kathy Tuccio, Daryl Daniels, Bob Brundage Present

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 6:22 PM. **Review of the Minutes of January 12, 2008**– The minutes were reviewed and approved as presented. **Pride Dance** – Kathy reported that Anne Uebelacker has agreed to call the Pride Dance on June 27, 2009. The cost is \$350 plus airfare. The Board discussed ways of advertising the dance in order to encourage attendance and it was decided that a "save the date" announcement be emailed to WSD members and other clubs upon receipt of the signed contract. Kathy also reported that Joe and Todd were planning on a Hawaii theme for the Pride Dance. The Board discussed that theme and their preference for a theme that related to "Pride" more directly. It was decided that Kathy would contact Joe to discuss other theme ideas. **2013 Convention** – Daryl presented a report from Lorenzo Taylor about the SF bid for the 2013 convention. The only other bid came from Phoenix and according to Lorenzo the San Francisco bid looks very strong. If the bid is accepted the convention committee will form a 501c3 (non-profit organization), which can accept tax-deductible donations. In order to do pay the costs of setting up the 501c3, the committee has asked for each of the six bay area clubs to loan the organization seed money in the amount of \$500 to be repaid from donations collected later. The Board approved the \$500 loan to the 2013 convention committee pending the acceptance of the SF bid. **Membership Renewal** – Daryl reported that emails were sent to 27 people who have not renewed their membership. **Pride Parade Float with Good Vibrations** – Kathy reported meeting with representatives from Good Vibrations who are reaching out to the GLBT square-dancing community to participate in a Pride Parade float. GV will cover all costs associated with the float and want square dancers on and around the float. A meeting of all volunteers will be called closer to the event to coordinate efforts. The Board talked about developing dates for intro nights and Mark offered to mock-up a postcard-sized advertisement of WSD and those intro nights. **IAGSCD Dues** – An invoice from IAGSCD was presented for yearly dues. The Board approved payment. **Decorating Committee Requests** – Daryl reported on requests that Joe and Todd have made. The cost of the 50/50 give-aways (estimated \$25) be deducted from the 50/50 collection rather than from the decorating budget. The Board approved the request for the Anniversary Dance only, use leftover Mardi Gras necklaces for Pride and decide whether or not to have give-aways on a case-by-case basis going forward. Permission to purchase a decorating tableau for \$80. The Board decided they needed more information in order to approve the purchase. Kathy offered to draft an email to communicate with Joe and Todd on these two issues and the Pride dance theme and send the email to all members of the Board for their approval before sending it to Joe and Todd. **Treasurer** – Bob Brundage - The Board reviewed the report presented by Bob Brundage and approved it. Total assets as of February 2009 are \$6,614.16. The increase in assets is mainly due to memberships received. **Dance Coordinator** – The Board directed Kathy to email the caller for the Anniversary Dance, Paul Waters, the flyer for the dance. **Club Night Coordinator** – Gary Cohn -Gary discussed plans for the February club night "Mardi Gras and "Shamrock Shakes" the March club night. **Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 7:07 PM. The next meeting will be March 16, 2009 at 6:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Tuccio, Co-Admin & Secretary

DANCE CALENDAR

APRIL-MAY 2009

April 2, 7:30-9:30 pm Foggy City Dancers Convention Prep MS/P/A* \$5 Harlan Kerr caller
Sanchez School, 325 Sanchez Street, 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

April 13 No Class

April 15 No Club Night Matt Thomson & Victor Hollinger Birthday

April 16 Scott Johnson Birthday

April 17-19 PACE Linda Kendall caller. Friday 7:30 pm A2, Saturday 11 am & 2:30 pm C1 Sunday 11 am C3A, 2:30 pm C3. Diablo Light Opera Company, 1948 Oak Park Boulevard, Pleasant Hill

April 20 Yellow Mainstream Class Completion Party 7:30-9:30 pm EVRC

April 24 Mario Torrigino Birthday

April 27 Free Introduction to Plus Dancing 7:30-9:30 pm EVRC

April 29 Plus Wednesday with Harlan Kerr 7:30-9:30 pm EVRC \$5

May 1-3 PACE Barry Clasper caller. Friday 7:30 pm A2, Saturday 11 am & 2:30 pm C1 Sunday 11 am C3A, 2:30 pm C3. Diablo Light Opera Company, 1948 Oak Park Boulevard, Pleasant Hill

May 2 7:30-10:30 pm El Camino Reelers Walk & Dodge into Spring P/A \$8/\$10 Eric Henerlau caller
St. Andrews Methodist Church, 4111 Alma Street Palo Alto

May 4 Plus Class Begins 7:30-9:30 pm EVRC

May 5 Fen Tamanaha Birthday

May 9 Midnight Squares 2-5 pm **May Pole Dance** (C2/C3A), 7-10 pm **Graduation Dance** (A/C1/C2*)
\$8/\$10 each session Ebenezer Lutheran Church, 678 Portola Drive, San Francisco

May 15-17 Capital City Squares & Prime 8s Stumptown Stomp 2009 MS/P/A/C1 See website for details Guerneville

May 16 Kathy Tuccio Birthday

May 20 Fiesta Club Night 7:30-9:30 pm EVRC

May 25 No Class—Memorial Day Andrew Wicker Birthday

May 26 Richard Leadbetter Birthday

May 27 Plus Wednesday with Harlan Kerr 7:30-9:30 pm EVRC \$5

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

Western Star Dancers 2009 Pride Dance



Pride

and

Hope

Amé Uebelacker
caller

Saturday, June 27, 2009

7:30 - 10:30 PM

Ebenzer Lutheran Church

678 Portola Drive

San Francisco

MS/P/A

Guests \$10 Members \$8



Western Star Dancers
584 Castro Street #480
San Francisco, CA 94114