



June 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

# PRIDE & HOPE

In an unexpected ménage a trios, Western Star Dancers, Foggy City Dancers, and Good Vibrations are joining forces to ensure a strong gay square dance profile at the 2009 San Francisco LGBTQ Pride celebration. Good Vibrations is providing the float and the live band (Kountry Kunts). WSD and FCD will provide dancers. Foggy City Dancers is also organizing a club banner contingent to march with the float, as well as arranging for the mandatory wheel guards.

Harlan Kerr and Rich Reel have agreed to call on the Good Vibrations Pride float. WSD, FCD and Good Vibrations are planning on a rehearsal so that dancers can practice with the live band on Thursday June 4, 2009, 7 PM at Sanchez School. Space on the float is limited, so the callers have choreographed special routines for dancing in a small space. FCD has generously donated their club night rental of Sanchez School for the rehearsal.

Everyone willing to be part of the float in the parade is invited to a party at the Good Vibrations Gallery, 1620 Polk Street (at Sacramento), 6:30 pm on Thursday June 18<sup>th</sup>.

Recruitment of new members at square dance clubs has been on the decline, not just in the GLBT community, but in the larger world of square dancing. Foggy City Dancers, as you may or may not know, did not hold a class cycle this past fall and winter due to lack of interest. The new Board of Directors of Foggy City Dancers wants to remedy that, and we would like to invite all of you to participate in a great recruitment opportunity.

We will have a booth at the San Francisco Pride festival this year on Saturday and Sunday, 27-28 June, 2009, and we have extended the invitation to staff the booth to all of our fellow clubs in the San Francisco Bay Area who will be joining us.

We envision having a big-screen TV and DVD playing of gay square dancing events, decorations, as well as having a PA for impromptu live dancing (if we have enough for a square at each half-hour). Also, we would seek volunteers to staff the booth to talk to people about square dancing, and to take information from people, which would be shared among all the clubs participating. We know this sounds ambitious, but people are looking for inexpensive entertainment options during tough economic times, and raising the profile and visibility of the gay square dancing clubs can be a great way to fulfill a community need.

Please volunteer to help make this celebration is filled with lots of Pride and tons of Hope. You may sign up to work the booth, join the banner contingent, or be a wheel guard at [foggycity.org/volunteer](http://foggycity.org/volunteer).

## We Lost Our Dance Space

In response to the ongoing budget crisis, the city decided to start charging for use of the recreation centers in the city. Their rates are out of the club's budget, so we are seeking other options. Forest Hill Christian Church (250 Laguna Honda) is our locale at present, but their space had been previously rented to another group for a few weeks. Class locations throughout the summer will be announced on our website, or you can contact a member for the board for the latest information.

Suggestions, ideas, and comments are welcome. If you know of a good, cheap place to dance, we want to know.



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**Daryl Daniels**  
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**Mark Nida**  
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**Kathy Tuccio**  
ktuccio@hotmail.com

**Board of Directors 2009**

## MEDALLIONIZED

Western Star was mentioned during the convention medallion ceremonies when former WSD board member **Bob Leslie** was presented with the ten-year award. Bob no longer dances, and he now resides in Manassas, VA. **Kathy** and **Marie** (photo far right) were on hand to congratulate their long-time friend.



## SOCIAL CLIMBERS

While in Washington, it was a distinct honor for **Andrew** and **Gary** to meet the First Lady. Photos do not do her justice. In person, she does not look so much like **Lorenzo**.



## MAKE MINE MILLER

It was confusing enough when we had two **Steve Scotts**, two **Ed Conleys** and two **Richard Tucks**. Now there are two **Steve Millers**. Maybe we can trade ours in for the younger model.



## FIRST CAME THE AIR GUITAR

**Brandon** and **Kathy** paid homage to Sonny & Cher by singing *I Got You, Babe* into an air mic.

## THE SILVER FOX AND THE SILVER VIXEN

**Matt** was delighted by **Freeman's** fabulousness at the Stumptown Stomp, and he appreciated the opportunity to pick up some fashion tips.



DC DIVISION MEMBERS  
26th FUGSDC CONVENTION  
APRIL 9 - 12, 2009



Western Star Dancers  
2009 unofficial club photo



# 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

February 9, 2009

All members present. The meeting was called to order at 6:19 PM. The minutes of February 9, 2008 were reviewed and approved as presented. **Anniversary Dance** – The Board discussed final details of the dance scheduled for March 28, 2009 with Paul Waters calling. Todd and Joe are decorating with the theme of “Squares in Space”. **Pride Dance** – Daryl showed an example of a flyer for the June 27, 2009 Pride dance. The theme is “Pride and Hope”. **Pride Parade Float** – Kathy announced that Harlan and Rich have agreed to call on the Good Vibrations Pride float and that everyone willing to be part of the float in the parade is invited to a party at the Good Vibrations Gallery on Polk Street 6:30 Thursday June 18<sup>th</sup>. **2013 Convention** – Daryl stated the club “uniform” for convention pictures was a white WSD shirt or any WSD t-shirt and black pants. Board members Kathy, Bob and Gary will be attending, as will many other WSD members. **Membership Renewal** – Daryl reported that two more people have renewed their membership as a result of the 27 emails that were sent to people who have not renewed their membership. The Board authorized Daryl to print and distribute the club directory without the names of those that didn’t renew. **Club Printing** – Daryl reported that printing flyers on his printer was cheaper than Office Max. He presented 4 questions he had about the printing he was doing on behalf of WSD. The Board discussed the questions and made the following decisions: One page of pictures of events in the newsletter instead of one page of pictures for each event. Daryl should pare down the amount of WSD newsletters he sends to other clubs. We don’t receive any other club’s newsletter but it does make for good advertising. 15 event flyers to each Bay Area club are enough.

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors

April 20, 2009

All members present. Also present was Russ King. The meeting was called to order at 6:15 PM. The minutes of March 16, 2009 were reviewed and approved as presented. **Anniversary Dance** – Daryl gave kudos in regards to the Anniversary dance held on March 28, 2009 with Paul Waters calling. The decorations that Todd and Joe did to the theme of “Squares in Space” were wonderful and everyone seemed to have a great time. **Pride Dance** – The Board discussed decorations for the Pride dance. The theme is “Pride and Hope” and the Board decided to ask Joe and Todd if they could provide simple decorations for that theme with a budget of \$125. Kathy will contact them. **Pride Parade Float** – Kathy announced that WSD, FCD and Good Vibrations are planning on a rehearsal so that dancers can practice with the live band on Thursday June 4, 2009, 7 PM at Sanchez School. FCD has generously donated their club night rental of Sanchez School for the rehearsal. **Membership Renewal** – Daryl reported he had completed and distributed the club directory with 80 members listed. **Special Election of Officers** – Russ King decided to self-nominate for a position on the Board and designated Mimi Mueller to take his place on the nominating committee. John Dobson agreed to be a candidate. The ballots have gone out and will be collected at class on April 20 and 27 as well as by mail. New board

members will be announced after the ballots have been counted, during class night on April 27.

**New Business: Traveling Angel** – The Board discussed the idea of supporting the efforts to organize trips to other club’s events. Brandon has agreed to take the lead with help from others.

**Yellow Class Completion / Intro to Plus** – The Board discussed final plans for the current class’ completion which takes place tonight and the free Plus Intro night next Monday April 27. **Storage Space** – The Board discussed the possibility of renting storage space to store memorabilia. **Banner** – Bob reported that he was not able to bring back the club banner from the convention in Washington DC as it was not available when he went to pick it up. He thinks Matt Thompson may have it. Kathy and Gary remarked how dismal our banner looked next to the other club banners and there was some discussion about asking member Dani Lawler about making a new one.

**Reports: Treasurer** – Bob Brundage - The Board reviewed the report presented by Bob Brundage and approved it. Total assets as of April 2009 are \$6,544.88. The decrease in assets is mainly due to expenses for the Anniversary dance, printing, and airfare for the Pride dance caller. **Club Night Coordinator** – Gary Cohn reported on plans for the May 20<sup>th</sup> Fiesta Club night and the June Art Club night sponsored by Paul Gonyea. **Outreach Coordinator** – Mark Nida talked about the possibility of using on-line media such as Twitter and Facebook for club outreach.

**Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM. The next meeting will be May 18, 2009 at 6:15 PM.

## Minutes of the Emergency Meeting of the Board of Directors May 4, 2009

All members present except John Dobson (excused). Also attending were Rick Collins, Steve Scott, Tomas Todd. The meeting was called to order at 6:42 pm. **Site Issues:**

**EVRC** - Steve Scott gave a short history of WSD’s previous rent history at EVRC and agreed to write a letter to Bevan Dufty citing that history and requesting a waiver or reduction of the rate we have been quoted; this letter will be reviewed by the entire Board prior to being sent. Steve also pointed out the need to establish ownership of our equipment lockers; Daryl volunteered to attach identification and contact information on the front of each of them.

**Forest Hill Church** – Kathy requested formal ratification of the decision to book FHC for five Monday nights between May 4 and June 8 (excluding Memorial Day Weekend), at a rate of \$75 per night. The action was unanimously approved.

**Other Options** – Rick Collins has done preliminary research into several possible locations we could consider in the future, depending upon how negotiations with EVRC proceed and how our members feel about the FHC location. However, most are more expensive than FHC and/or have a smaller dance area.

**Financial Impact** – Bob indicated that we are currently in good financial shape.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 pm. The next meeting will be held on May 18, 2009 at 6:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Tuccio, Co-Admin & Secretary

# Dance Calendar

June July 2009



## Events

**June 12-14 PACE** Todd Felleggy 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

**June 13, 7:30-10:30 pm Diablo Dancers 17<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dance** Rich Reel caller. MS/P/A \$8/\$10 Jewish Community Center, 2071 Tice Valley Boulevard, Walnut Creek

**June 27, 7:30-10:30 pm Pride & Hope Pride Dance** Anne Uebelackler caller. MS/P/A\* \$8/\$10 Ebenezer Lutheran Church, 678 Portola Drive, San Francisco

**July 10-12 PACE** Rob French & CJ Smith callers. Friday 7:30 pm A2, Saturday 11 am & 2:30 pm C2, 7 pm C4?, Sunday 11 am C3A, 2:30 pm C3. Diablo Light Opera Company, 1948 Oak Park Boulevard, Pleasant Hill

**August 1, 7:30-10:30 pm El Camino Reelers Star Across Summer** Jet Roberts caller. P/A \$8/\$10 St. Andrews Methodist Church, 4111 Alma Street, Palo Alto

## Birthdays

June 27—Scott Carey  
July 7—Freeman Stamper  
July 7—Daryl Daniels  
July 10—John Dobson  
July 11—Anna Damiani  
July 20—Tony Attard  
July 20—Jan Marks  
July 23—Lorenzo Taylor

**Club Night & Plus Wednesdays are cancelled until further notice**

For the latest dance information, check [NorCalDanceCalendar.org](http://NorCalDanceCalendar.org) National & International events can be found at [www.iagsdc.com](http://www.iagsdc.com) Click on Events

**Class Locations will vary during the summer.  
Check our website for the latest information:  
[www.westernstardancers.org](http://www.westernstardancers.org)**



[www.diablo-dancers.org](http://www.diablo-dancers.org)

**Class Night—Tuesdays**  
1700 Oak Park Boulevard  
Pleasant Hill



[www.foggycity.org](http://www.foggycity.org)

**See Website for info**  
Sanchez School  
325 Sanchez Street  
San Francisco



[www.reelers.org](http://www.reelers.org)

**Class Night—Wednesday**  
St. Andrew's Methodist  
4111 Alma Street  
Palo Alto



[www.iagsdc.org/midnightsquares/](http://www.iagsdc.org/midnightsquares/)

**A & C Programs**  
See website for  
classes & locations  
San Francisco

**Other Bay Area  
Square Dance Clubs**



[www.oaktown8s.org](http://www.oaktown8s.org)

**Class Night—Wednesday**  
Montclair Women's  
Cultural Arts Club  
1650 Mountain Boulevard  
Oakland

Western Star Dancers  
2009 Pride Dance

[www.westernstardancers.org](http://www.westernstardancers.org)



Uebelacker  
caller

PRIDE  
and  
HOPE

Saturday, June 27, 2009  
7:30-10:30 PM  
Ebenezer Lutheran Church  
678 Portola Drive  
San Francisco  
MS/P/A\*

Guests \$10 Members \$8

Members are  
encouraged to  
bring food

**GOOD VIBRATIONS**  
*Sensually yours Since 1977*

Sponsor of this year's Pride Parade  
square dance float

Live Music

Rich Reel & Harlen Kerr calling  
Join the Banner Contingent or  
Wheel Guard!

Be a part of the parade!

Visit the Gay Square  
Dance Booth  
Festival Area  
Frequent Tips to be called!

**Volunteer!**

Sign up for the Banner Contingent, Wheel  
Guard, or staffing the booth at:  
[foggycity.org/volunteer](http://foggycity.org/volunteer)

**Mark Your Calendar**  
**Circulate SF 2009**  
*On the Waterfront*  
**August 15**