

C.L.O.G. Today™

Official Newsletter of the National Clogging Leaders Organization

USA National Clogging Championships – September 1 & 2, 2012 Nashville, Tennessee – Opryland Hotel & Resort Sponsored by CLOG, Inc.

By David Phillips



This annual National Clogging Competition is an Invitational event only and culmination of the top 3 age division winners from NCHC competition sanction events series that begins each August 1 through July 31 of each year.

This year, the event is divided into 4 Division – Amateur division Pee wee through Junior, Amateur Division Senior through Adult, and repeated age divisions for Master Level Teams.

This two day event comprised over 235 teams, 50 duets, 300 solos, comprising over 450 competition dancers from GA, AR, MN, IN, SC, TN, FL, NC, WA, MO, NE, KY, OK, CO., AL, and IL.

Congratulations to our Winners!

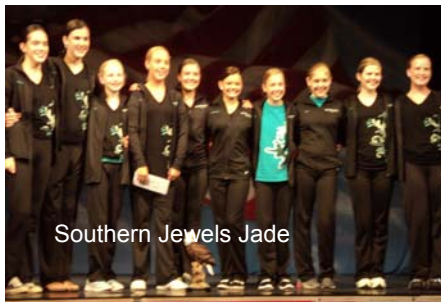


Tennessee Hoedowners, TN

Amateur Age Division Winners
Tennessee Hoedowners - Pee Wee
Southern Jewels Platinum – Elementary
Southern Jewels Jade – Junior
Power Taps Junior – Senior
Delta Rhythm – Young Adult
Delta Queens - Adult



Southern Jewels Platinum



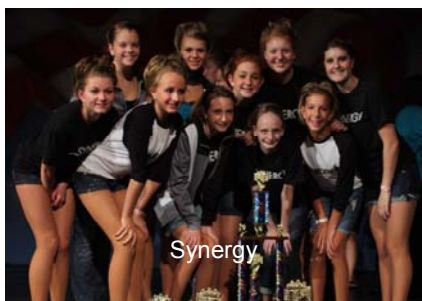
Southern Jewels Jade



Delta Rhythm, TN



Delta Queens,



Synergy

Masters Age Division Winners
Synergy – Elementary
Southern Jewels Sapphire – Junior
Synchronicity – Senior
Tennessee Hoedowners YA – Young Adult
Power Taps Young Adult - Adult



Southern Jewels Sapphire

CLOG Today

CLOG Today is published bi-monthly by

CLOG - The National Clogging Leaders Organization, Inc.

David & Susan Phillips, Executive Directors
 2986 Mill Park Court
 Dacula GA USA 30019
 Phone: (678) 889-4355 • Fax: (603) 925-0967
 clog@clog.org • www.clog.org

Send address changes to CLOG, Inc.

President/Board Chair:	Conrad Cooper
Vice President:	Marie Lovelace
Secretary:	Janice Hanzel
Treasurer/CFO:	Reed Davis
Members:	Barb Guenette, Dustin Stephan, Janice Jestin, and Shane Gruber

CLOG Today (formerly known as the *Flop-Eared Mule*) is the official newsletter for the National Clogging Leaders Organization, Inc., published by cloggers, for cloggers, in an effort to share clogging news and to promote and preserve the Clogging dance form.

CLOG members receive a copy of the *CLOG Today* newsletter as a benefit of CLOG membership. CLOG offers two membership classes: Gold (\$30.00 per year) and Silver (\$25.00 per year), US funds only.

CLOG Today Staff

Editor:	Pam Smiley 800 Hammershire Rd Owings Mills, Md 21117 410-504-5775 clogtoday@clog.org
----------------	--

CLOG encourages all cloggers and clogging enthusiasts to contribute to the content of the newsletter. Please send news items, advertising, comments, and/or suggestions to the editor.

High-quality images and documents in Microsoft Word (attached to e-mail) are preferred. Original photos and documents sent via postal mail are also accepted (please send SASE for materials you wish to be returned).

Issue:	Deadline:
January-February	December 15
March-April	February 15
May-June	April 15
July-August	June 15
September-October	August 15
November-December	October 15

Advertising rates are available online or by contacting the editor.

The opinions in this newsletter do not necessarily represent those of the editor, staff, CLOG, or the Board of Directors. *CLOG Today* reserves the right to use, edit, or withhold from publication any material submitted.

Copyright © 2007 by CLOG, Inc.

(Continued from page 1)

Masters Age Division Winners (con't.)



Synchronicity



Special recognition:

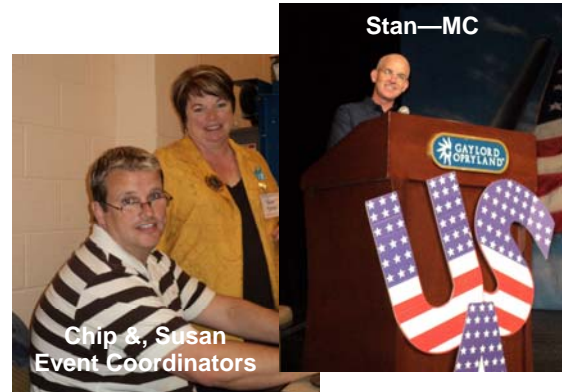


Betsy Farlow Memorial:

Presented to Dalita Diaz D'Arce
 In recognition of your avid unselfish cooperation, maintaining high standards of integrity, accompanied by ardent devotion to the preservation for the furtherance of traditional clogging.

All Star Hall of Fame Awards:

Presented to:
 Sarah Darby, GA
 Dustin Stephan, IN
 Ryan Rickard, GA



Chip & Susan
 Event Coordinators

Staff:

Event Coordinator's— Susan Phillips, GA, Chip Summey, NC, Terry Glass, TN,

Judges – Jean Stephenson Goodwin, NC, Tommy Cowart, GA, Lorie Redmon, NC, Dieter Brown, SC, Rhonda Brady, GA

Emcee – Stan Webb, MO
 Scorekeeper – David Phillips, GA

Music – Shannon Glass & Robbie Ramsey, TN

Special Thanks to all our Registration, Score runners, Hospitality, Security staff and others that helped to make this a successful event: Reed Davis, NC, Marianne Doan, GA, Anne Lanier, FL, Johnnie Payton, TN, Gayle Stowe, GA, Cal Phillips, GA, Carla Ramsey, TN, Marie Lovelace, TN, Tyler Hummer, MO Jimmy Lovelace, TN and Pat Hammett, NC



Keith Brady – Time Keeper, Judges - Rhonda Brady, GA, Dieter Brown, SC, Jean Stephenson-Goodwin, SC, Tommy Cowart, GA, Lorie Redmon, NC

A special thanks and recognition to John Douglas and family for their generous support of the National Clogging Championships.



Reed Davis,

Johnnie Payton & David Phillips

Anne Lanier, FL

Carla Ramsey Hospitality

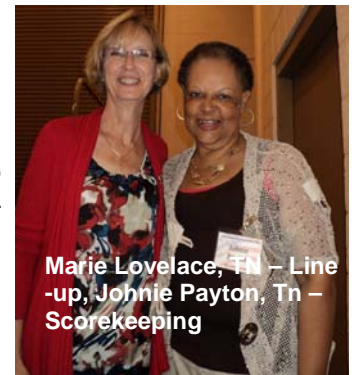
(Continued from page 2)

All star dancers receive a t-shirt and they are invited to dance at the National Clogging Convention and be a part of the showcase. Other performing opportunities will be available throughout the year.

Each team who places 1st, 2nd or 3rd is extended to back next year to the USA National Championships to defend their winnings next year. Labor Day weekend, Gaylord Opryland Hotel, Labor Day weekend 2013.

Teams who that attend NCHC sanctioned competitions and place 1st, 2nd or 3rd receive an invitation to dance at the event as well.

On behalf of the CLOG, The National Clogging Organization, we thank each dancer and leader for their support, and look forward to next years USA National Championships.



Marie Lovelace, TN – Line-up, Johnnie Payton, Tn – Scorekeeping



LTD Express, AR with Chip Summey



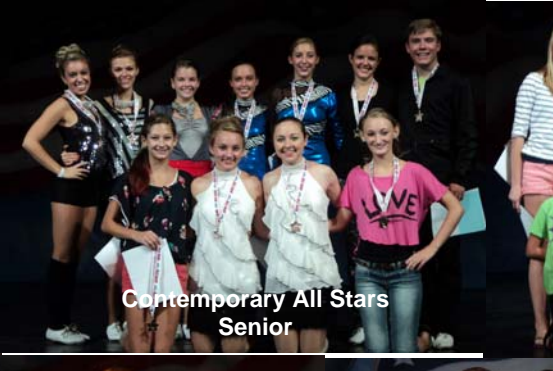
Power Taps, GA



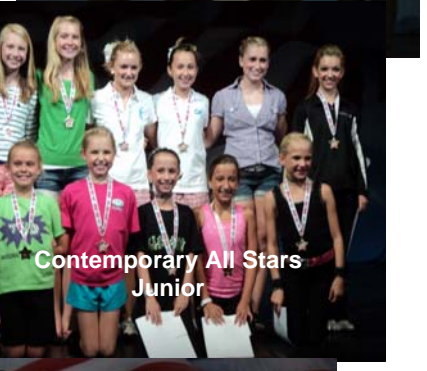
Contemporary All Stars Young Adult



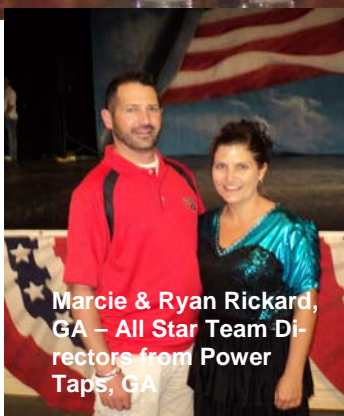
Atomic Force, TN



Contemporary All Stars Senior



Contemporary All Stars Junior



Marcie & Ryan Rickard, GA – All Star Team Directors from Power Taps, GA



Tap This



Momentum



Up and Running



Phoenix

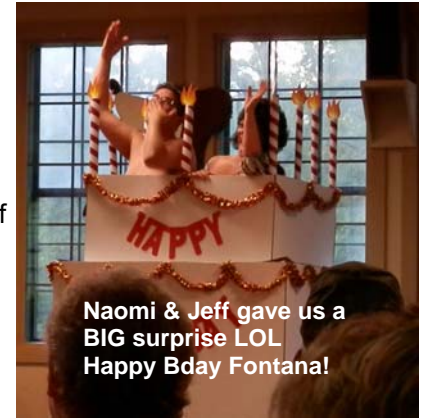


FONTANA JAMBOREE SCORES A

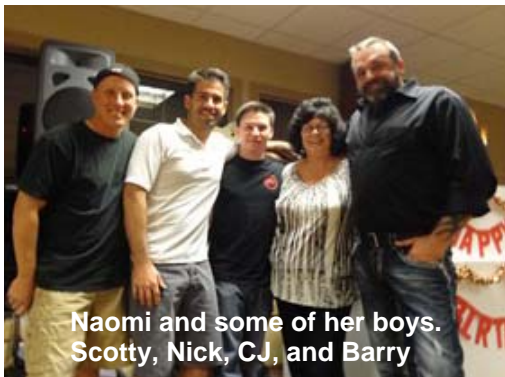
By: Barbara Elko



Naomi Pyle and Jeff Driggs shared their love of Fontana at the 10th anniversary of the Jamboree. This was one special workshop, full of history and memories. Cloggers from California, Florida, Texas, Canada, and many other states drove the challenging hazardous, Tail of the Dragon to be part of the celebration atop the Smoky Mountains. In past articles I wrote about the aurora of Fontana, that presence was strongly felt by all who attended. The hall was prepared, decorated with various size cakes, with jovial volunteers greeting the arrivals. The volunteers were amazing, working down to way beyond dusk. Although these people were never on stage, everyone noticed them and we thank you for making the workshop such a pleasant experience.



Let's talk classes. There were a few sides bets going that Jeff would bring a routine for the new rage GANGNAM STYLE. He did, and easily got the dancers to abandoned all inhibitions as they tried the Handcuff Hops and the Chain Gangnam. This dance is silly and we are grateful to have such a talented man who continually presents outlandish fun routines.



Naomi and some of her boys.
Scotty, Nick, CJ, and Barry

Naomi Pyle, the undisputed Queen of Clog. Her insight and insistence brought clogging back to Fontana Village. Hard working, supportive, readily available, and a sense of humor unmatched, she is truly loved by all. Many attendees had to take US129 to get to Fontana Village. If you have not had the experience of driving on US129 "Tail of the Dragon" it is a harrowing 11 miles stretch of highway with 318 curves. In preparation for this workshop Naomi drove this road three times in one day, once at night to retrieve Barry Welsh from the airport. I might have asked Barry to hail a cab. Naomi taught two great country routines, and along with Barry a lesson in Swing Dancing, which was a big hit with the dancers. What a lucky lady she is surrounded by her "Boys".

A few years back when Barry Welch came on board, some of us were not entirely sure what we thought about this tall, tattooed stranger from the west coast. He looked a bit different from the other instructors, even cued in a different language. He certainly has passed the test of time, and we all look forward to his classes. He has a commanding strong presence on stage, but knows how to relax the dancers as they struggle with the new steps. "Just relax, take a deep breath" are words Barry often uses during a teach. He shares funny stories about his pets which include miniature donkeys, 8 dogs and a turkey. He taught routines to pop, country and bluegrass at this workshop. Who doesn't love a guy with a huge smile and dimples? Chip Summey classes always fill quickly cuz the dancers know they will be FUN! He likes to interact with the dancers. Chip is forever changing the way a pull back or a rock forward is done. I think he enjoys watching the stumbling reactions of the cloggers as he introduces these new moves. I have to mention the bags full of candy he supplied the dancers with. The smarties got many of us through the fun dances. Thanks Chip!

You can always tell when Scotty Bilz arrives, a loud roar is heard throughout the workshop. Does this man ever run out of energy? Dancers of all ages gravitate to his classes. Pop, country, bluegrass, beginner, intermediate, advanced, it does not matter all his routines are great. Mr. Scotty Bilz can be seen on the big screen dancing in the new movie "The Trouble With The Curve" be sure to see it!

The younger instructors Nick Frazier, Matt Koziuk, C.J. Tate, Joe Barron and Paul Melville, were a big part of this workshop. C.J. taught a traditional footwork & figures, and Matt a circle mixer. Nick held an advanced pop class and Joe came with a routine to Sauvemente. Paul Melville will be headlining his first workshop this spring at the Mason Dixon Spring Stomp in Maryland. He is a personable, quick witted young man. We wish him luck with his dancing pursuits.

Saturday evenings festivities started off with a bluegrass concert featuring The Grass Stains Band from West Virginia. This set the stage for a great night of dancing. The concert was followed by several outstanding exhibitions. But one demo overshadowed the rest ... move over "All That" make room for "ALL FAT"!!! Surprising the crowd or maybe I should say shocking the crowd, Naomi, Jeff, Chip, Scotty, and Barry took to the dance floor. They



Joe, Nick, Paul, Matt, CJ and Chip

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

needed all the dance floor to perform, not because of the motion in the routine but because of the blow up costumes they were sporting. The inflated costumes transformed each of them into the size of sumo wrestlers! If that was not funny enough Scotty began deflating half way through the routine ... you just had to be there!!!!

Don't read about the excitement at Fontana, be part of it September 20th & 21st 2013. You just never know what might happen on the dance floor at the Jamboree!!

Love you "ALL FAT" thanks for a fantastic weekend, filled with dance, fun, and fond memories!



The Grass Stains joined by Jeff entertain on the deck Friday evening



"ALL FAT"



TEXANS



Paul gets a lift from the ladies of Mason-Dixon Spring Stomp



CANADIANS



Joe-Joe photo-bombing



Chip, Jeff, & Scotty



Volunteers

In Memory.....

The 10th Annual Fontana Clogging Jamboree was dedicated to some very special individuals that we have loved and lost and that meant so much to Fontana and the clogging community. This plaque will be permanently mounted in the main hall at Fontana to honor them and all they meant to us.

- Patsy & Carl Blanton, South Carolina
- Carl Ogle, Tennessee
- Lesley Meadows, West Virginia
- Bobbi Boyce, Texas



On The Beat...

News from around the clogging world

On Sunday, September 2, 2012, twelve members of the Sims Country Cloggers of Dudley Shoals, NC participated in a kickoff celebration for the **Democratic National Convention** in Charlotte, NC at the Mint Museum. The party offered a "Taste of the Carolina's." Around 1,000 people were in attendance including delegates from several states. The delegates were from the five "home" states represented by President Obama and Vice President Biden which included Illinois, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Hawaii. The Cloggers were one of three groups selected from across the state to perform for the delegates. The Sims Country Cloggers were thanked and welcomed by Mayor of Charlotte Anthony Foxx. The cloggers got to rehearse and perform also with members of the West Charlotte High School marching band and Cheer Extreme stunt teams out of Kernersville, NC, these were the other groups selected to entertain at this event.



Members of the Sims Country Cloggers had to arrive at 11am that morning, go through security and orientation, and then we had lunch and rehearsed all afternoon until about 4:00pm. At 5:00pm the party began with music and throughout the night moments of "pop up" entertainment occurred, in which the Sims Country Cloggers participated in about 7 numbers. From clogging, to line dancing, to fun crowd songs like "Twist and Shout" our cloggers danced among many who had never seen clogging. Attendees thanked and applauded the dancers and asked questions after their performances.

The evening was wrapped up with a debriefing on the night's events. Each clogger was given a card that each of the attendees received that described the entertainment they saw at the event. All of the dancers also received a commemorative t-shirt and lanyard.



Below are some of the comments from the cloggers that attended...

Sierra Jackson, Granite Falls, NC - clogger of mine for 9 years, Senior at South Caldwell High School: Our thoughts? It was an amazing opportunity that made me proud to be a clogger. Delegates from Hawaii and Pennsylvania that had never seen clogging before would go to places throughout the party just to see us. An experience that not every clogger can say that they've had. The president may not have been there, but I'm sure he'll hear about us from the delegates from his state :) To say that it was an honor is an understatement!

Angela Causby, Dudley Shoals, NC - clogger of mine for 15 years, Wrap-around Director: I just thank you for giving me the opportunity to go and perform at the DNC. I had a wonderful and exciting experience. When performing the energy that the delegates had gave me energy and it wanted me to give them

the very best performance that I could. I feel that this is an experience that me or any of the other cloggers will forget as well. I think that this was a wonderful bonding experience for all of us. I also think that this experience not all made us grow as dancers but made us grow people. Thank you again Jill

Taylor Matthews, Hickory, NC - clogger of mine for 5 years, has clogged since she was 3 - sophomore at Appalachian State University!: Being invited to clog at the Democratic National Convention was such an honor! It was awesome to be able to represent cloggers across the nation at such a huge event! Delegates from states as far away as Hawaii came and were able to see the true North Carolina folk dance! The crowd interaction was great, as they seemed to be intrigued the entire time as well as some joining in on some of the dances. The DNC was a phenomenal experience that I'll never forget!

Olivia Benson, Morganton, NC - clogger of mine for 8 years, Senior at Patton High School: Clogging at the DNC was such a surreal experience. Clogging has taken me many places but none of them have ever been so official, or stressful! I feel blessed that something that I love so much has taken me so many places and that people actually want to see me do it!

Lee Jackson, Granite Falls, NC - clogger of mine for 8 years, Elementary School Teacher Assistant at Granite Falls Elementary school: "A great opportunity for the SCC family to be part of something that only happens once every four years. It was a huge honor to represent our state at the DNC. This gave our teenagers a chance to see "politics in action" and to do what they do best...clog!"

"The cloggers made an impact on the delegates that had never seen clogging. They were very receptive to our type of dance and asked many questions about clogging. Some even got a quick clogging lesson. The cloggers were happy to show them the basics of clogging."

The Sims Country Cloggers are home based out of Granite Falls, NC (Dudley Shoals). Their studio has beginner-advanced clogging and 7 competition teams. Their directors are AJ and Jill Kirby. Sims, along with AJ and Jill host the Foothills Clogging Challenge and Hickory Hoedown every year and work to promote clogging all across the country. They strive to preserve clogging's heritage and also instruct contemporary clogging.

For more information or to contact AJ and Jill at 828-396-2052 or email simscountry-cloggers@yahoo.com - you can also visit their website at www.simscountrycloggers.com and check them out on Facebook!





Upcoming Events

(see more listings at www.clog.org/clogtoday/)

November 15-17, 2012

Hickory Hoedown Workshop
Hickory, NC
AJ & Jill Kirby 828-396-2052
simscountrycloggers@yahoo.com
Simscountrycloggers.com

November 21-24, 2012

29th Annual
National Clogging Convention
Gaylord Opryland Hotel &
Convention Center
Nashville, TN
David and Susan Phillips
678-889-4355
www.clog.org/convention

Feb 16, 2013

Potomac Double Down Workshop
Battlefield HS
Haymarket, VA

March 7-9, 2013

Smoky Mountain Encore
Gatlinburg Convention Ctr
Gatlinburg, TN
Lynne Ogle (865) 805-7025
www.smokymountainencore.com

March 23, 2013

Mason-Dixon Spring Stomp
Westminster, MD
Pam Smiley 410-504-5775
clogrpam@comcast.net

April 18-20, 2013

Nickel City Clogging Festival
Adams Mark Buffalo
Buffalo, NY
Linda Haley 716-537-9662
wnyca.com

April 27, 2013

Clogging in the Natural State 11th year
Mt. Home, AR
Kathy Wilson 870-243-8113
dancetymestudio@yahoo.com

Have an event you want listed here?
Send the information to:
CLOGToday@clog.org

Competitions

November 15-17, 2012

Hickory Hoedown Competition
Hickory, NC
AJ & Jill Kirby 828-396-2052
simscountrycloggers@yahoo.com
Simscountrycloggers.com

March, 2013

Winter Clogging Invitational
Saluda, NC
Chip Summey ncjcs@aol.com

March, 2013

Northeast Clogging Comp
Nashua, NH
Beth Kendall (802) 439-3349

March 22-23, 2013

Tennessee Clogging Classic
Kingsport, TN
Terry Glass glassterrygenera@bellsouth.net

April, 2013

City Slicker Stomp
Independence, MO
Missy Shinoski kloghop@sbcglobal.net
www.CitySlickerStomp.info

May 31-Jun 1, 2013

Big Horn Mtn Showdown
Buffalo, WY
Shanell Hatch (307) 620-0282
shanellhatch@yahoo.com

Jun 15, 2013

Grand Challenge of Champions
Branson, MO
Susan & David Phillips (678) 889-4355
gncclog.webs.com

Jun 22, 2013

Explosion Clogging Championships
Charleston, SC
Matt & Kelly Sexton (423) 282-5065
[Event Flyer](#)

Jul 26-27, 2013

Southwest US Clogging Championships
Double Tree Paradise Valley Resort
Scottsdale, AZ
Matt & Colleen Pearson (925) 361-7105
www.azpride.com

Jul 27, 2013

R2k Clogging Invitational
Rabun County Civic Center
Clayton, GA
Keith & Rhonda Brady (706) 892-6142

CLOG Welcomes New Members

Areka Lashley, MD
Ashlie Wells, TN
Jacki Young, CO
Tanner Dunn, TN
Tracy Rhew, TN
Kathy Brown, KY
Deetria Holt, AL
Amity Ryan, OH
Ellen Coltrane, NC
Debora Cobb, SC

For information on joining CLOG and the benefits of becoming a member, fill out and send in the application in this issue or at our web site at www.clog.org, or contact us at 678-889-4355 or



www.clog.org

(678) 889-4355 clog@clog.org

Join the CLOG team

One-year CLOG Membership

Gold (instructors) \$30.00
Silver (dancer) \$25.00

Send the following info & check

Name Home Phone
Address Work Phone
City, State, Zip E-mail address
Clogging Group Membership
List membership in area, state, and/
or national clogging associations

To: **CLOG, Inc.**
2986 Mill Park Court
Dacula, GA 30019

Check with event coordinators to confirm event details!



David and Susan Phillips, Executive Directors
2986 Mill Park Court
Dacula, GA USA 30019

**29th Annual CLOG
National Convention ~
Nashville, TN ~
November 22-24, 2012
Make Your Plans Now!**

Auxiliary Events:

Certified Clogging Instructor Training Session
~ Monday ~ Wednesday
Judges Training ~ Thursday
CCI Testing ~ Thursday

Pre-Convention Events:

Evening Dance ~ Wednesday
Open Teach Halls ~ Wednesday & Thursday
Dance Expose' ~ Thursday

Convention Events:

Parade of Colors ~ Thursday Evening
Evening Dancing ~ Thursday - Saturday
Workshops ~ Friday & Saturday
Seminars ~ Friday & Saturday
Exhibitions ~ Friday Evening
Showcase ~ Saturday Evening

Featuring:

20+ Premier Clogging Instructors
Early Registration & Member Discounts

Schedule tentative and subject to Change

**NATIONAL
CLOGGING
CONVENTION**



Hotel Info:

Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention
Center

Reservations: 888-777-6779

Address: 2800 Opryland Drive, Nashville,
TN 37214

GROUP ROOM RATES

Single/Double/Triple/Quad occupancy rooms: \$105.00

Guaranteed Rate until 10/19/2012

Register Online at www.clog.org/convention

INFO: www.Clog.org

678-889-4355

convention@clog.org

CLOG

2986 Mill Park Ct.

Dacula, GA 30019