

# C.L.O.G. Today™

Official Newsletter of the National Clogging Leaders Organization



## MARDI GRAS AT THE NICKEL CITY FESTIVAL



By: Barbara Elko



As the cloggers came marching in to the Adams Mark Hotel you could sense the dancers internal batteries charging for a long weekend of “Let The Good Times Roll“. Armed with a variety of luggage, food, beverages, cameras, shoes, and smiles this crowd of six hundred plus came prepared to make this a workshop that will not soon be forgotten!

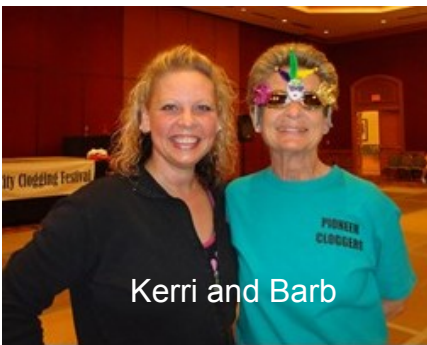
There were a few glitches with the festival’s new home. The hotel’s inventory of luggage carts totaled five, the air conditioner went on a brief vacation Friday morning, and by Saturday evening only one operating elevator remained. These nuisances did not dampen the spirits of the faithful, fun loving, Nickel City followers. Instead, the circumstances were used to get

better acquainted. On the flip side the staff was friendly, the hotel housed a large indoor pool, gym, and a great lounge. The local restaurants were plentiful and served memorable food. **The Nickel City Festival has successfully moved!**

As far as the workshop itself, if there were any glitches they were invisible to the dancers. Large bright rooms, six halls opened, 25 instructors, floors prepared, sound system clear, higher stages for the instructors, great vendors area, buffet line right outside the class rooms which including a large dining area, efficient registration, who could ask for anything more? The bottom line is... this festival is destined to be extraordinary no matter where it takes place because of the intense passion of the volunteers determined to make it so. **WNYCA you rock!**



Friday started with an 8 a.m. Zumba class, with Kerri Orthner. I was surprised to see how many early birds attended this. Kerri, without speaking, skillfully led the group through an hour workout with the focus on the music. Her visual presentation so elegant that even newcomers to Zumba were quickly enthralled. This class was a blast!



Kerri and Barb

She takes the stage and within minutes the room is filled with laughter. She demonstrates a routine and within minutes we become dancers. It is no surprise that her classes are so popular. I am talking about, the one, the only, Naomi Pyle. She taught a pop,

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## CLOG Today

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**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.

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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.

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## Scholarships Available!

**\*\*\*Deadline extended to JULY 4, 2013**

### Marilyn Hansen CCI Tuition Scholarship *In Honor and memory of Marilyn Hansen*

#### What is the Marilyn Hansen Scholarship?

This scholarship was established to honor the memory of Marilyn Hansen, a woman who supported clogging through much of her life and was dedicated to the cause of education in the area of clogging instructors. This grant includes tuition scholarship for the Certified Clogging Instructor Program for two sessions and the application fee worth \$310.00.

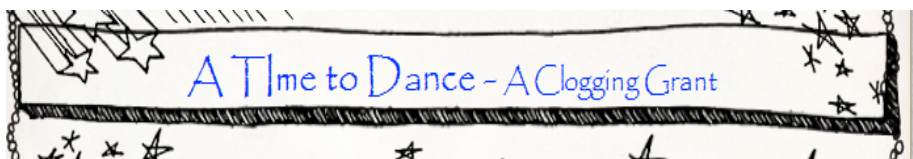


- This scholarship does not include travel and lodging.
- The scholarship cannot be applied to franchise sponsored CCI Sessions, it can only be applied to CCI Sessions offered by CLOG such as sessions offered during the National CLOG Convention.
- The scholarship must be used in the same year it is awarded.
- The minimum age limit for CCI seminars and the scholarship is 16 years of age.

#### How To Apply:

Letters of Application will be accepted from January 1, 2013 through **July 4, 2013**. Applicants will be notified soon after.

For more information <http://clog.org/CCI/scholarship.html>



*Time to Dance is a grant established in tribute to Mary Snyder, a woman of grace and faith, who taught many people how to clog dance. Mary was the instructor for Lehigh Valley Cloggers and received her CCI certification in 2003. Upon her passing in 2011, her friends established *A Time to Dance* in order to carry on her legacy of encouraging others*

*to clog dance.*

CCI grants will be paid directly to CLOG on behalf of the CCI student.

Applications may be made via e-mail: [E-mail iClog](mailto:info@clog.org)

For more information go see [A Time to Dance](http://clog.org/CCI/scholarship.html)

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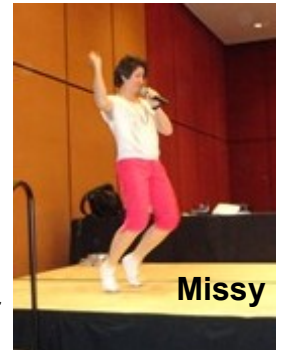
Jeff

and five country routines. If that does not impress you, she did this with a broken rib and a cut foot which became infected. We love you Naomi, but please in the future leave the ladder in the shed!

Jeff Driggs never ceases to amaze me. Does he stay up all night dreaming up the crazy steps and hand motions to match? The dancers became hysterical as they tried to imitate these new moves. If you attended Cross My Heart or Roll in the Hay you know how entertaining and talented this man is.

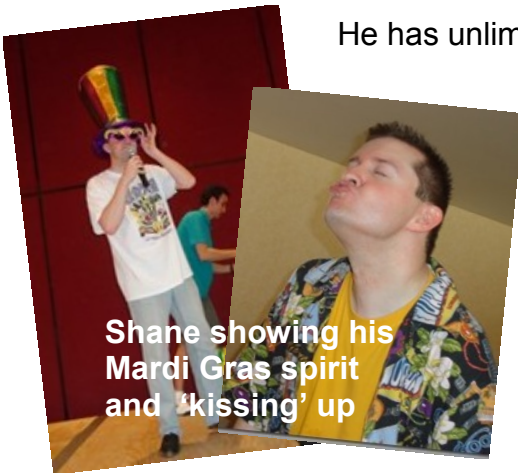
Chip Summey, I believe he has a handbook on a thousand ways to rock pull. He is an unpretentious instructor, and everyone looks forward to getting on the dance floor with him as the helmsman.

My shared opinion of Missy Shinoski...fantastic instructor! Speed, grace, sense of humor, and an unique style she has it all. Bluegrass, country, and Missy go together like peanut butter and jelly. The dancers devoured her routines to Train Wreck, Twist Your Hips, and Sleigh Ride.



Missy

He has unlimited imagination, skill, and personality. All of those wonderful traits came through in his Mr. Pinstripe Suit routine. Mr. Shane Gruber once again had an over the top fun routine. Great music with steps to match if you missed this class pull out your syllabus!

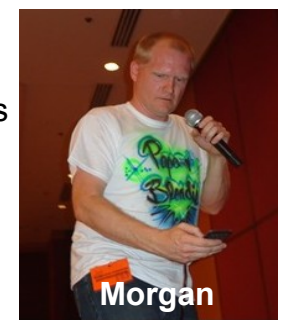


Shane showing his Mardi Gras spirit and 'kissing' up

A great addition to the workshop were, Joel Harrison and Delohn Collins. A news flash for those who may not know "All That" will once again be competing on Americas Got Talent. Be sure to vote!

Barry Welch filled the room for his teach of Magic Carpet Ride. Those who picked this class were not disappointed it was a great routine. Andrew Perry's teach to Break My Heart, was awesome!

Herb Brock had a delightful routine to It's Gonna Be a Beautiful Day. Morgan Hudson "Rubber Legs" had several teaches to various types of music. The unanswered question still remains. How does he do that?



Morgan

Scotty Bilz is he ever going to get old? He has more spring than a pogo stick. His jumps would make an Australian kangaroo envious. He magically passes his enthusiasm to those attending his classes until the dance floor looks like a mass of hopping young joeys! Suit & Tie, his pop routine, is a prime example of his energy.

It is impossible to attend all the classes, but everyone was delighted with their

choices. Instructors, a job well done, thanks for making this an outstanding workshop!



The Pioneer Cloggers ease on down the road.

The Saturday night exhibitions were highly entertaining. Twelve groups participated, Combination Cloggers, Christian Cloggers, Stompin Em Cloggers, Coronation Cloggers, Kickin' Rhythm Cloggers, Pioneer Cloggers, Amy's Got Talent, Backwoods Cloggers, TNT Cloggers, Kickin' Rhythm Kids, Tensation, and Shane Gang Cloggers. Talk about variety, everything from Hillbilly Dirty

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Dancing, to Dorothy and company Easing On Down The Road. One wild group dressed in jungle attire and another dressed Gangnam Style. There was even a group who decided to go Thrift Shopping. The Shane Gang, in grand fashion, ended the exhibitions with a Mardi Gras parade. This group, forty strong had everything a brass band, jesters, floats, and of course voodoo magic. Another lavish performance by Shane and his Gang!

The fun dances were amazing. The festivals Mardi Gras theme became evident as many of the dancers arrived wearing masquerade masks, beads, and jester hats. This just added to an already lively atmosphere. Leave it to the WNYCA to come up with the idea of using two rooms with a center stage for the fun dance. Four wall of cloggers facing a centered stage, pounding the floor, is a sight to behold. Needless to say this had the dancers All Shook Up! An absolutely ingenious idea.

Just when you think a fun dance could not get any better ... special guest appearances by: "ALL THAT" "ALL IT" and "ALL FAT" The roar from the crowd was heard across the border. Words can not describe these insane groups. It would be better to watch them in action on You Tube. It is an honor to know Joel, Delohn, Chip, Jeff, Scotty, Naomi, and Barry, who have no limits on having fun!

**THIS NICKEL CITY FESTIVAL WAS COLOSSAL!** Thank You. Those involved putting this together should be very proud of themselves. Your hard work reflected in the smiles of over six hundred people. Get some well deserved rest cause we'll be back!



Cuers 'center stage' at the Saturday Night Fun Dance

**Next Year:  
April 10-12!  
Be there!!!**



All That vs. All It



Amy leads her



Tensation Thrift Shoppin'



All Fat makes a guest appearance



**On The Beat...**

**News from around the clogging world**

**RIVERSIDE CLOGGERS**

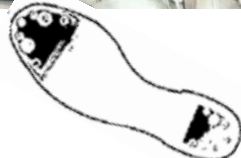
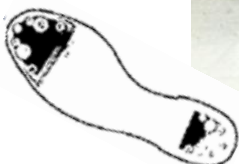
By. Barbara Elko

Located in Point Pleasant West Virginia, the Riverside Cloggers just celebrated their fifth anniversary as a club, salute!

They invited other teams to join them for a day filled with dancing, and laughter. The hall was beautifully decorated, with various team pictures. Also on display were the many awards their competition team has received. The most recent was first place at Encore, in Gatlinburg Tennessee. Erica Haning, their director sure knows how to run a fun dance. She include some easy teaches, blasts from the past, partner/circle, and old favorites like Rocky Top. Other than a short break for dinner the music never stop. Speaking of food, nothing like a pot luck dinner to bring people together.

The Riverside Cloggers truly represent the clogging spirit, and we wish them continued success.

Thanks for a great day of clogging!





## Paul Melville comes to Maryland!

Paul Melville made his first trip to Maryland and he did not disappoint! The Carroll County Cloggers (CCC) hosted the 16th Annual Mason-Dixon Spring Stomp on March 23 and they did not disappoint! Joining Paul were Jayne Treadwell, Ginna Tarsi, Mary Smith, Wilyma Goldsberry, and Becky Morehouse. With 2 halls in full swing, there was something for everyone all day long. Tired feet and a great time were had by all!

Paul and Mary kicked things off in the morning and it was on. There was a great hospitality spread for all in attendance. Lauren Kallins did a great job of organizing all the goodies and including some Gluten-free options as well. There pastries, candies, fruit, coffee and tea, bottled water. Did I really need to have breakfast? It kept everyone fueled and ready for the next class.

Paul Melville headlined his first workshop here in Maryland. Paul is an up and coming National instructor and he showed why. He has a great passion for this pastime we all love and he shares it well. From his thoughts on the traditional aspects of clogging to future of the dance, Paul exudes enthusiasm. CCC is still getting rave reviews for the day spent with Paul. On dancer said 'Paul has a great future, anyone that can get the whole room doing swimming elephants ....well that says a lot'. As I walked around the venue, I saw how engaged the crowd was with Paul. Dancers were following Paul's cuing of a step (ex DS-DS-DS-RS), at the end of the step, without missing a beat, he cued "inhale, exhale". And the dancers DID it!! What was great was when they realized they had just followed his instruction, they had to chuckle at themselves, and it spread across the floor. I just had to smile.

Mary Smith came back with her 'mouse under' - watch your toes on that one, but it really was a brain teaser. Woke everyone up in the afternoon. And HAND MOVEMENTS!! Anyone who knows Mary, knows that is far from a usual thing for her .

Ginna Tarsi taught at her first workshop here too. Ginna is working on her CCI accreditation and got dancers up and engaged with each other in her Una Paloma Blanca routine. CCC was happy to help her on her quest.

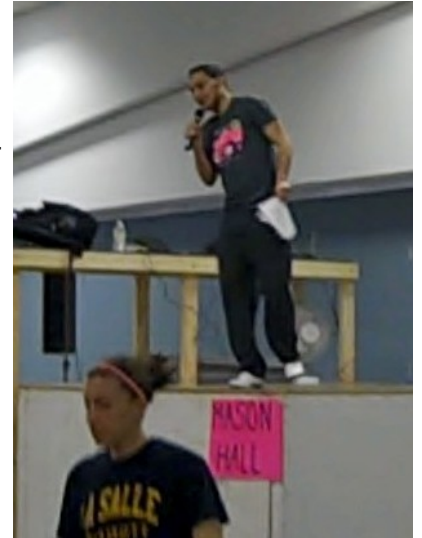


Paul shows his stuff!!

Jayne, Becky, and Wilyma brought some great dances to share also. The dancers really delight in them and had lots to say about what they offered for the day.

The Fun Dance kicked off with Paul and Jayne leading the crowd in some National Dance list choices and a few new things Paul delivered on the fly. Everybody go their Clog On for sure!

**Thanks to the Carroll County Cloggers for hosting!**





## Upcoming Events

(see more listings at [www.clog.org/clogtoday/](http://www.clog.org/clogtoday/))

### June 29, 2013

GCA Central Workshop  
Perry Arts Center  
Perry Georgia  
[Central GA Workshop](#)

### September 20 & 21, 2013

Fontana Clogging Jamboree  
Fontana Village, NC  
304-776-9571  
ccajeff@aol.com  
[fontanaworkshop.com](#)

### October 5, 2013

First Coast Clogging Classic  
10131 Atlantic Blvd.  
Jacksonville, FL 32220  
Anne Lanier [ALanier821@aol.com](mailto:ALanier821@aol.com)

### October 11-12, 2013

Fall Grand Delight Workshop  
Rochester, MN  
Pam Heaton, CCI 612-991-3270  
[Smashingtoe@yahoo.com](mailto:Smashingtoe@yahoo.com)  
[www.PleasantValleyCloggers.com](http://www.PleasantValleyCloggers.com)

### October 19, 2013

OktoberClogFest  
Seasons Lodge and Conf Ctr  
Nashville, IN  
Naomi Fleetwood-Pyle 812-579-6979  
[Naomi\\_P@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Naomi_P@sbcglobal.net)

### November 2, 2013

GCA North Workshop  
North Georgia Fairgrounds  
Dalton, Georgia  
Penny Sloan 706-260-7485  
[lucypenny@optilink.com](mailto:lucypenny@optilink.com)

### November 28-30, 2013

CLOG National Convention  
Renaissance Orlando at Sea World  
Orlando, FL  
[www.clog.org](http://www.clog.org)

## Competitions

### May 31-Jun 1, 2013

Big Horn Mtn Showdown  
Holiday Inn Express  
Buffalo, WY  
Shanell Hatch (307) 620-0282  
[shanellhatch@yahoo.com](mailto:shanellhatch@yahoo.com)

### Jun 14-15, 2013

Grand Challenge of Champions  
Branson, MO  
Susan & David Phillips (678) 889-4355  
[gnccclog.webs.com](http://gnccclog.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](http://www.azpride.com)

### Jul 27, 2013

R2k Clogging Invitational  
Rabun County Civic Center  
Clayton, GA  
Keith & Rhonda Brady (706) 892-6142  
[rhondakbrady@gmail.com](mailto:rhondakbrady@gmail.com)

Have an event you want listed here?  
Send the information to:  
[CLOGToday@clog.org](mailto:CLOGToday@clog.org)

Check with event coordinators to confirm event details!

## CLOG Welcomes New Members

**Marcella Male, FL**  
**Jeanie McVay, MI**  
**Nicole Greene, MN**  
**Janera Tiell, MD**  
**Evelyn Price, MO**

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](http://www.clog.org), or contact us at 678-889-4355 or [clog@clog.org](mailto:clog@clog.org).



[www.clog.org](http://www.clog.org)  
(678) 889-4355 [clog@clog.org](mailto:clog@clog.org)

### Join the CLOG team

One-year CLOG Membership

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

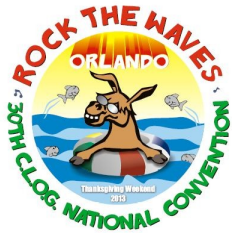
#### Send the following info & check

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**



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



**30th Annual CLOG  
National Convention ~  
Orlando, FL ~  
November 28-30, 2013  
Make Your Plans Now!**

**NATIONAL  
CLOGGING  
CONVENTION**



**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  
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**Schedule tentative and subject to Change**

**Hotel Info:**

**Hotel Information:**

Renaissance Orlando at Sea World  
6677 Sea Harbor Drive, Orlando, FL 32821  
Hotel No. 1-407-351-5555

**Reservation Number:**

1-888-789-3090 or 1-407-351-5555 - Code: clog2013  
Register on Line - <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/clog2013>

**GROUP ROOM RATES**

**Rate: \$99 1-4 ppl per room + tax  
Guaranteed Rate until 11/4/2013**

**Register Online** at [www.clog.org/convention](http://www.clog.org/convention)

**INFO: [www.Clog.org](http://www.Clog.org)  
678-889-4355  
[convention@clog.org](mailto:convention@clog.org)**

**CLOG**

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