

INDEPENDENCE DAY WEEKEND

07/04 THURSDAY
SKATING DAY
DJ RC La Rock

07/06 SATURDAY
SKATING DAY
DJ Ray Vazquez

07/07 SUNDAY
SKATING DAY
DJ KL

07/13 SATURDAY
NO SKATING
NYC Triathlon Setup

07/14 SUNDAY
NO SKATING
NYC Triathlon

07/20 SATURDAY
DJ Mike Dominico &
DJ Scott Wozniak

07/21 SUNDAY
DJ Big Bob &
DJ Rob Scott

07/27 SATURDAY
DJ Sky King

07/28 SUNDAY
DJ e

THE CENTRAL PARK SKATE CIRCLE

takes place every Saturday, Sunday and major holidays in 2013 from April 10th through October 27th. The music plays from 2:45 pm to 6:45 pm.

OFFICIAL CPDSA CONTACTS

Bob Nichols 212-246-1344
On the Web www.CPDSA.org
E-mail CPDSA@earthlink.net

CPDSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bob Nichols, President
Vera Sinnreich
Tyrone Cloud
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Happy 18th, CPDSA!

The 4th of July: barbecues, fireworks, summer heat and the Central Park Dance Skaters Association's Birthday party. The USA celebrates independence and freedom from the rule of a British King and the CPDSA celebrates our freedom from the rule of a controlling mayor.

We have come a long way from the 4th of July of 1995 when—after a three month ban on music, when they tried to chase us out of the park—we were finally allowed to hold the Skate Circle again. The mayor and his allies underestimated us, they never thought we could resist the campaign they waged against us. With ingenuity, determination and a low power FM transmitter, we took a loosely connected group of skaters and organized ourselves into an effective association. We stood up for our rights and kept our place in the park.

Central Park is now very different, the “anything goes” freedom of the 80s is gone. The Central Park Conservancy has taken over the operation of the park and transformed a crumbling infrastructure into a beautifully maintained garden showplace. The Park has become a highly desired destination for fundraising marches, parades, celebrations and exhibitions. Today, huge organizations pay large fees to hold their fundraising events in Central Park and new policies funnel those events into our paved area to protect the grassy lawns from the stress of those events.

The CPDSA would like to keep the Skate Circle running every weekend during our April through October season, but there is little we can do to influence the Parks Department and Central Park Conservancy

in the face of the large sums of money they earn by allowing big money to buy time here in the park. We just have to hope that the tents, trucks, forklifts, portapotties and all the rest of the equipment causes a minimum of damage to the pavement where we skate, because none of that money goes toward maintaining or repairing the surface.

The CPDSA has grown up too; we are known around the world as a unique New York phenomena and as a tourist destination in our own right; celebrating the diversity and charm of our “Skate Family”. Our memberships, donations and a few t-shirt sales pay our costs each year. No corporate donors keep us rolling. We just want to skate and have fun, but we should also be proud that we are still holding on to our little piece of Central Park.



Bob leads a traveling group with Niecy, Pop, Lynna, Edna, Amy and company.

SKATERS, DO YOU HAVE SKILLS THAT COULD HELP THE SKATE CIRCLE?

Would you like to join the leadership of the CPDSA?

Are you an Accountant?
Book keeper? Lawyer?
Electronics Wiz?
Database Expert?

...or just someone genuinely willing to be a part of the group that keeps the skate circle rolling?

Contact Bob Nichols at:
cpdsa@earthlink.net
or call: 212-246-1344



Fernando & Granddaughter, Chantal Marie



Visitors from Melbourne, Australia

If you would like to contribute stories or photos for consideration in our next newsletter, please contact: CPDSA@earthlink.net

Last Stop:



Last Stop: A Survivor's Story

by Nelson Velez and Tommy McInnis

A true story based on the lives and work of Nelson Velez, NYPD HOU police officer, and Tommy McInnis, an MTA Connections outreach worker, truly details the lives of some of New York's unsung heroes.

<http://www.laststopbook.com>



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Crazy Legs Skate Club
Salvation Army Building
110 Kosciuszko St., Brooklyn, NY 11216
Wednesday 6:30-7:45pm
Student Rate: \$5 for Skate session following class
8 pm-Midnight
Travel Info: crazylegsskateclub.com

SKATING WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

Crazy Legs Skate Club
8:00 PM – Midnight
Admission: \$10.00
NY's Top Skate DJs
Beautiful Wood Floor
Skate Rentals: \$5.00

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Curtis rocks out

The View from Skaters Road

by Bob Nichols, President, CPDSA

The Skate Circle's diversity is its greatest asset. Each of us has a unique way of expressing ourselves through skating. Our strengths and weaknesses combine to make us recognizable. Miles Davis once said, about playing music: "We don't have a style, we blow who we are." The same goes for us; we skate who we are.

We might not recognize it ourselves, because we rarely see what we look like when we are skating. My experience from seeing myself on video is that it looks better from the inside—how we think we look—rather than the way others see us. Still, the most important thing about skating is the way it makes us feel.

An often quoted bit of wisdom urges us to "dance like there is no one watching"—to get beyond self-consciousness, to dwell in the music and the motion, which takes us to a different, more expansive consciousness. It's not mystical or mysterious; it's simply the joy of being alive, of using your body and all your senses to rise above the mundane world.

There is no one right way of skating at the Skate Circle. There are many things you can do on skates, the simplest is to just skate around the rink to the rhythm of the music. There is also choreographed precision line dancing, with a line of skaters following a leader. There is pair skating, multiple skaters traveling around the rink in a "train" or in a traveling precision group and free style dance, where pretty much anything goes. There are a few individual skaters who practice very unique skills, like Robert who balances five bottles on the top of his head or Ricky, who balances a spinning

basketball on top of a small American flag on a stick. What you will not see at the Skate Circle is organized competitive figure skating. It's not that we have anything against that kind of skating, it's just not what we do.

It might seem strange or pretentious to someone who is not a dance skater, but to those of us who practice the art, the simple truth is that skating makes us feel good. It makes our bodies strong and helps relieve the stress of 21st century life. It's not just for New Yorkers either, there are vibrant skating scenes all over the country: Philadelphia, Chicago, Boston, Atlanta, Los Angeles, San Francisco...the list goes on and on. We have friends who come to skate with us from all over the country and the world: London, Amsterdam, Paris, Barcelona, Montreal, Tokyo and from cities in Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Australia and other countries.

You won't see us in the mainstream media and that is probably a good thing; the media loves to make heroes and then tear them down. There is no big story here, no scandal, no salacious pandering; just good clean fun in an activity that helps bring you health and happiness.

If it sounds like I'm selling our sport...well maybe I am. I consider myself a skating advocate. I believe that roller skating can help you to lead a more joyous, healthier life. It may not solve all your problems, but it can help you control your weight and build up your wind and stamina. The best thing about it is that it is a great workout without being work.

The Skate Circle Lives!



DJ Big Bob



DJ Misbehaviour



DJ e

Thank You 2013 CPDSA New and Renewing Members

The CPDSA thanks these members whose donations have helped make this season possible by joining or renewing their memberships.

Annette Bernhardt
 Bobbi Bongard
 Patrick Bryar
 David Britton
 Vin & Paula Campisi
 Rick Casalino
 Kathy Cino
 Janice & Terry Collins
 Darryl Davis
 Lynna Davis
 Tom Dowling
 Brian Doyle
 Richard Epstein
 Amy G
 Marcial Godoy
 Jeffrey Goldberg &
 Miyuki Koga

Richard Hassard
 Janis
 Michael Katz
 Jordan Kessler
 Hiromi Kiba
 Eugene Kim
 Karen Ann King
 Louis Lara
 Gary Lesser
 David Linton
 Chantal Mariani &
 Joseph Paluszek
 Robert Mattson
 Suzanne Maxx
 Thomas McInnis
 John McNally
 Mark Merschen

Mark & Nancy Mindes
 Bobby Morales
 Gail, Steven & Justin Myrick
 Robin Ostrow
 Alan Pfeifer
 Amy Rea
 Lisa & Brian Schottisek
 Roz Reich
 Sal Rentas
 Connie Reynolds
 Regina Rider
 Jamie Rivera
 Jose Rivera
 Zulma Rodriguez
 Maria Rotella
 David Rothman
 Dilta Sanchez

Lorraine Sanchez
 Jose F. Santana
 Simone Saint Laurent
 Michelle Savarese
 Lisa & Brian Scholtisek
 Marti Speranza
 Richard Spivack
 Adam Streck
 Michael Taitt
 Julie Tan
 George W. Turner
 Jackie Vargas
 Gwen White
 Thomas Winslow
 Mark & Lee Wolf
 Danuta Zakrezewska
 Charlie Z



Five Bottle Robert and Basket Ball Ricky do their thing.

Photo: © 2013 by Bob Nichols



Lynna gets down and shows them how it's done.

Photo: © 2013 by Michael Cancel

CPDSA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



JOIN US!

Name _____

Date ____/____/____ Member # _____

Address _____

Please cut out this membership application and mail it, along with your contribution, to the CPDSA address below.

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

You can get additional applications and more information from our staff members at the CPDSA Skate Circle, located mid-park at the foot of the bandshell. You can find us by entering Central Park at 72nd street and walking along Olmsted Way toward the center of the park. Just follow your ears. Listen for our dance music. You can't miss us.

Home or Cell Phone _____ - _____ - _____

Work or Cell Phone _____ - _____ - _____

E-mail _____

Contribution:

\$25 \$50 \$100 Other _____

New Member Renewal

Central Park DANCE SKATERS ASSOCIATION

c/o Bob Nichols
 421 West 56th Street – 2A
 New York, NY 10019