



EVENTS SCHEDULE

4/17 SUNDAY

DJ Nick Johnson / RC LaRock

4/23 SATURDAY

DJ Jon Ferrari

4/24 SUNDAY

DJ Julio / DJ Dr. Brooks

4/30 SATURDAY

DJ Walden

5/01 SUNDAY

DJ Rob Scott

5/07 SATURDAY

DJ Alchemy / DJ Rikky Rivera

5/08 SUNDAY

DJ Misbehaviour

5/14 SATURDAY

No Skating/AIDS Walk setup

5/15 SUNDAY

No Skating/AIDS Walk

5/21 SATURDAY

DJ Mr G./ DJ Jon Ferrari

5/22 SUNDAY

DJ Jay Stewart

5/28 SATURDAY

DJ RC LaRock

5/29 SUNDAY

DJ Rikky Rivera

5/30 MONDAY/Memorial Day

DJ Julio / DJ Cuba

THE CENTRAL PARK SKATE CIRCLE

takes place every Saturday, Sunday and major holiday in 2005 from April 9th through October 30th. The music plays from 2:30pm to 6:30pm.

OFFICIAL CPDSA CONTACTS

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Bob Nichols 212-246-1344

On the Web www.CPDSA.org

CPDSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lezly Ziering - Chairman

Bob Nichols

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Gwen White

William Harrison

Daniel Guzman

Rebecca Guzman

A Decade of Skating

by Lezly Ziering

It's that time of year again when the birds begin to chirp, the flowers begin their awakening and a young man's fancy turns to shoveling out his car from some freak April snowstorm. Once again it is my pleasure to welcome you all to another eagerly awaited season of skating in Central Park. Exit snow and bitter days, enter sunshine and music! Let's get it on - let's PARTEEE!!!!!!!!!!

This is a landmark year, on July 4th, 2005, the CPDSA celebrates its 10th anniversary, though as one of my colleagues is quick to point out, we are entering our 11th season. There is no contradiction there, if you do the math, you'll see that since we were born on the 4th of July, 1995, 2005 is our 10th birthday! And if you count

the seasons, it will become apparent that this is indeed, our 11th season.

2004 was an exciting and productive year for our skaters. The season kicked off with the exquisite installation of the vibrant and wildly colorful floorscape, sponsored by the Public Art Fund and created by the brilliant Brazilian artist Assume Vivid Astro Focus and the futuristic and graceful canopy for the DJ booth designed and constructed by Rama Chorpash. It was an honor and a privilege to have these beautiful creations grace the Skate Circle for the first three weeks of our season. In 2004, several interesting jobs came our way. In June we were featured in the ill-fated production of *Xanadu* for the "Into

Character," TV series that suffered an unexpected demise. Sad though that may have been, we made the best of it and had a showing of the film at the Roxy for our people, complete with an on-film proposal of marriage which took our featured skater totally by surprise, turning disappointment into a night of celebration, and yes, we did party. October brought work for 20 of our skaters for Crunch's street skating promotion, and in December Virgin Mobile also featured our skaters in a week of promotion, skating the streets at select locations and culminating in a huge gala at the Roxy to cap off the gig. We were also highlighted in a 3-page full color feature in the *Daily News* and received promi-

(Continued on page 2)



CPDSA winter skate crew in the house

From There to Eternity

by Daniel Guzman



Neil and Leanne enjoy the warm weather on CPDSA opening weekend

Photo ©2005, Kenny Milne

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("A Decade of Skating" continued from cover)

ment mention, with a color photo, in *NY Magazine's - A Field Guide to Central Park*.

It was also a year that the Central Park skaters were involved in two parades - the African American Parade and, in concert with radio station WKTU, we shared their float in

the Halloween Parade to close the 2004 season with a blast.

It has been ten great years filled with good times and treasured memories. Here's a toast to the next ten; may they be as fulfilling as the last.

ROLL ON!!!

When I started to write this article, I had no idea about the long and colorful history of the CPDSA Skate Circle. Then Bob Nichols suggested I read the four-part history by Allen Wardwell in the 1999 Newsletters that are on the CPDSA website.

Skaters began congregating on the roadway that overlooks the Bethesda Terrace in April 1978. At first it was a few skaters with a boom box skating to disco music; soon, large crowds began to gather which completely blocked the entire roadway, stopping traffic.

As a result, the Parks Department hired a DJ to do his thing on Dead Road, almost exactly where we are now, so that the skaters would be lured away from the Bethesda Road. At that time, the pavement was old and cracked (the road wasn't resurfaced until sometime around 1983), people were walking through all the time, and nothing was painted to suggest anything like a rink. After that, people started bringing boom boxes out every weekend.

Then, on March 25, 1995, as the first notes were sounded, an officer pulled the wires out and told us it was against the law to play amplified music in the park without a permit because we were making too much noise. After many letters to the papers, articles, TV news

reports, and futile confrontations with the police, it was apparent that we had to get organized.

Thus, the CPDSA was born. Under the leadership of Lezly Ziering, Bob Nichols, and Brent Noseworthy, a membership flyer was produced, dues were collected, and a newsletter was printed. Negotiations were held with Park and Conservancy personnel and with help from some influential friends, including Ronnie Eldridge and Ruth Messinger. On July 4, 1995, we got a one-day permit to play again, which was then extended to cover weekends and holidays from 2:00pm to 7:00pm from mid-April through Halloween.

Now, the CPDSA is a NY State Non-Profit organization, is working on becoming a federally recognized 501-C3 Non-Profit organization, has a Board of Directors, and has an active website at www.CPDSA.org.

The Board is currently in the process of upgrading and updating its membership database and tries to keep everyone informed on the most recent events within the CPDSA Skate Circle via e-mail and the website. So please be sure to renew your membership for 2005 and to supply the staff members with your e-mail address so that the CPDSA can keep you up to date this skate season!

If you would like to contribute stories or photos for consideration in our next newsletter, please contact: marci@cpdsa.org

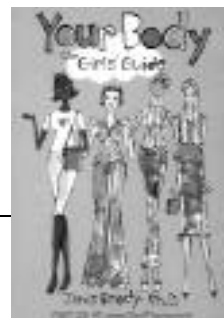


Dr. Janis Brody

**Your Body:
The Girls'
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(St. Martin's Press)

Janis' book has been recommended by Publisher's Weekly, Jump Magazine, and Amazon.com's Top 10 Family List



The View from Skaters Road

by Bob Nichols

It was a busy winter on the Skaters' Road. Cristo's "The Gates" art project brought a huge crowd into the park in February, when we are usually left pretty much on our own. Thanks must go to Leroy James for his unwavering service to the skate community, bringing his boom box and folding chair into the park and forming a center for the Winter Circle to turn around. Richard Fuentes and his sound system, which is centered around a Crate-powered speaker, kept things rocking when Leroy had to leave or when his batteries wore down. As usual, Nick Johnson kept his "Nick at Night" show going all winter, and Jay Stewart made some welcome appearances which helped keep the entertainment varied and diverse.

Much of the materials and heavy equipment for the "Gates" project were stored on the Skaters' Road as the installation progressed; a great deal of it was in the area where the CPDSA circle operates in the Summer. This gave the pavement in our area a heavy workout and seems to have compounded the usual wear and tear on the skating surface. More cracks than usual appeared and there were gouges taken out of the pavement in several high-use skating areas. These cracks and gouges must be patched as soon as the weather is settled and the temperatures stabilize above 60 degrees. We will need volunteers to help with the patching. Once the patching is complete, we will need a good work crew to repaint the rink guidelines. Some people did volunteer for the job at the end of last season, but this is the time to come forward once again so that we can get down to work.

Wayne Bradley, who painted the original markings in our area, has offered to lend his expertise to our repair and repainting project. Wayne wants to do the job right, with masking tape and rollers, for a top notch professional job. We will need a good paint crew to make this project work. We will get started on the job later in the spring

when the weather is a bit warmer, but now is the time to volunteer so that we can get our plans underway.

Last year the CPDSA DJ committee issued a challenge to see who would be first to bring out the music on a laptop computer, and in October, DJ Jon Ferrari met the challenge. A picture of Jon and his computer mixing setup appears in this Newsletter. Congratulations, Jon, you were the first! We expect several other DJs, notably Roxy DJ Julio, and DJ Jay Stewart, to continue this trend, though there will also be diehard old school vinyl DJs who will continue to bring their turntables and record albums and others who will be mixing their sounds using state-of-the-art CD players. Most of us don't care what equipment they use, as long as the music is good, but it is nice to see technical innovation mixing the old with the new.

A couple of our more tech-savvy skaters have an idea about how to do a live webcast of our event - probably at the CPDSA website: www.cpdsa.org. Several people have already volunteered to start the ball rolling: Al Gera of "Central Park Skate" fame, Richard Renda of the "Totally Cool" TV show and our webmaster Steve Warshaw are already on board to bring this idea to fruition. There are other technical wizards who want to help and it sounds like this could turn out to be a very cool moment.

This will be the 11th skating season for the CPDSA, but it is more like 27 years since the first skaters starting coming to the Skaters' Road to dance to music on their skates on weekends. We are continuing the tradition, in an organized and officially sanctioned guise, but underneath all the permits and restrictions, we still have the same spirit of freedom and the love for skating that brought us here in the beginning. The challenge to us now is to keep it fresh, and keep it real.

The Skate Circle Lives!



Sinan and Beth brave the snow and crowds during the Gates display

Photo ©2005, Kenny Milne



DJ Jon Ferrari mixes via laptop at the Circle late last season

Photo ©2005, Bob Nichols



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would like
to thank



for their
generous
support.

The Skaters' Network

by Lezly Ziering

Today in New York City we have the beginning of a viable communication network for skaters. The Roxy Skate Group imparts information about the operations of the Roxy - unexpected closings, special skate days, DJ scheduling and more. My e-mail list, which I call NY Skaters, dispenses all manner of info - auditions, openings and closing of rinks, births, and sadly, deaths, trips, announcements of anything that affects or is of interest to skaters. Many skaters' addresses appear on both lists.

The newest communication group is the Central Park Dance Skaters E-Mail List. We began accumulating addresses toward the end of last year and are making it a priority this year to build our communication group into an important adjunct to our newsletter which cannot carry time sensitive information - if

we need to let you know that a nor'easter is blowing in and there won't be any skating on a particular day, or it has started to rain in the Park and the weather looks perfectly fine in Brooklyn or NJ, we want to be able to hit you with an e-mail. You lost something in the Park, or conversely we found your cell phone or PDA - we will put it in an e-mail. Information about the African American Parade or Halloween Parade assembly area we'll let you know. All e-mails will be sent BCC so that your e-mail address will never be compromised. Those who want to be included



Big Joe Frankenstein scares the crowd last Halloween Day

Photo ©2004, Maki Asahina

in the NY Skaters List or the Roxy Group can request that option. Neither list will be made available to any other entity for any reason. Your privacy and trust is our prime concern.

There will be a table at the south end of the Skate Circle each skating day to gather e-mail addresses for the CPDSA. Use this valuable resource. Help us keep you in the know!!

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E-mail _____

Contribution:

\$15 \$25 \$50 \$100 Other _____

New Member Renewal

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

You can get additional applications and more information from Lezly Ziering 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.



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