



EVENTS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 1

DJ Julio

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 2

DJ Wall Street/Robert Scott

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 3

DJ Rikky Rivera

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 8

DJ Lee

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 9

DJ Nick Johnson

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 15

DJ Wall Street

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 16

DJ Rikky Rivera - **4pm start**

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 22

DJ Misbehaviour

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 23

DJ Robert Scott - **4pm start**

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 29

DJ Julio

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 30

DJ Nick Johnson - **4pm start**

THE CENTRAL PARK SKATE CIRCLE

takes place every Saturday, Sunday and major holiday in 2001 from April 15th to October 31st. The music plays from 2pm to 7pm.

CPDSA COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Lezly Ziering - Chairman
Bob Nichols
Muhammed Abdul-Aziz
Alonzo Jones
Stuart Pollack
Steve Heurung
Carol Spalding
Bill Levy
Nancy Rapchak
Mark Anthony Layne
Gene A. Williams

OFFICIAL CPDSA CONTACTS:

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Fax: 212-541-7871

On the Web: www.CPDSA.org

Labor Day Fundraiser

by Lezly Ziering

Once again we arrive at one of those weekends when we can legally appeal to our fellow skaters and all those who love the Skate Circle, to support our cause. It always amazes me how like pulling teeth this process is. It amazes me even more that when we approach seasons end, that we have actually succeeded in paying our bills - at least we have till now.

This season, however, though we have picked up most of our tabs we still have not been able to raise the funds to actually purchase the sound equipment that is on loan to us - with the option to buy.

I know that I'm singing an old tune when I remind you that there are many of you out there who come every weekend and to whom the Skate Circle means a great deal; and have never

reached into their pockets to help us realize our goals.

I do want to thank those of you who have been loyal supporters - especially those few who have not only contributed financially but have given of their time to help with technical assistance and the physical labor necessary to make this happen each week. We desperately need more of you in every category. Please see one of our staffers to volunteer - you will be most welcome.

Would it be a big loss to you if you did not have the Skate Circle to rely on - to be there at the end of a week's work? We have had a day here and there and even a weekend where another event has preempted our scene. I know how empty I felt - even though I have not been able to skate much this season - I need to know it's there.

We need new members and this season we are coming up with new perks for our people. Basic membership is still only \$15 & \$25 will get you a free t-shirt, tank top or hat, and as always \$50 and up is always welcome. If you already have a collection of our gear - buy one as a gift for a friend or relative.

Buy a bunch and pass them out to the homeless - now there's a thought.

Many thanks to the several \$500 to \$1000 donors who wish to remain anonymous - we could not have brought this season off without you.

Whatever you can donate - we will be grateful. Please be as generous with your support as you have been with your enthusiasm.



Tyrone, Lezly, DJ Robert Scott and Muhammed take a break at the DJ booth.

Skater Food

by Harry Falkenstein

Got the munchies? Well, the CPDSA can't legally sell sodas or snacks in the Circle to pay for permits, and \$1.25 "dirty water hot dogs" from the carts aren't on every skater's palatable menu. Of course, I'm hardcore and so I buy the sausages, served with either sauerkraut or onions. At \$1.50, they are the only bargain left in Central Park; for the quality and price of the sausages, I give them a 9.8!

Oh, you have higher tastes? Well, Mineral Springs sells burgers, sandwiches, some very nice wraps and all kinds of drinks. According to a quick skater poll, Cathe Sheehan, Joe Faraci and Lezly Ziering agree that the \$2 chocolate chip cookies are Grade A. Smoothies are also a good bet and they offer far more flavors of Frozfruit and ice cream bars than the hot dog vendor near the Circle. Frozen yogurt is also for sale at Mineral Springs for \$3.50.

If you enter the park on the East Side at 72nd street and follow the path to your right, there is a small cafe by the model boat lake where people can rent remote control toy boats. Nearby are statues of Hans Christian Anderson and Alice in Wonderland that are favorites of kids young and old. This is one of the most peaceful parts of the park, there are chairs and tables set up and the cafe sells mostly ice cream, pastries and coffee.

If you want to travel outside the park, check out the extremely inexpensive Central Park Deli on the southeast corner of 72nd street near Columbus Avenue. They offer Snapples, sodas, snacks and good sandwiches at good prices.

On the way back to the park - on the north side of 72nd street between Central Park West and Columbus - is BBQ's, a long time favorite after skate dinner destination for park regulars. Their name says it all; they have great ribs, chicken and fries. You can order honey-fried chicken wings to takeout for only \$10 - last time this order filled 3 people's appetites. One caveat: don't wear skates, or you will be forced to sockwalk. The floors are clean, though and the staff is friendly and nice enough, they just don't allow skates.

Of course, we finish with the Boathouse - at 79th street and East Park Drive - \$35 entrees served in elegant style on tables just off the lake, where reflections of Central Park dance in the waters. At last notice, there was no Cayman or Central Park alligator on the menu, in fact, at those prices I'm sure the fish are freshly caught, somewhere else.

So whatever your budget, skate and eat and come back in an hour.

Bon appetit!



Molly was feeling the music on a recent Sunday afternoon, dancing hard in her signature red roller skates.

Photo ©2001, Bob Nichols

The CPDSA would like to thank

MINERAL SPRINGS

for their generosity and cooperation
over the past 6 years.



If you are a CPDSA member interested in submitting an article for our next newsletter, please contact our editor at marciroth@yahoo.com



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The View from Skater's Road

by Bob Nichols

In the old days it was just a question of someone bringing out a boombox and a bunch of tapes. The only expense was replacing the batteries several times a day. Someone would pass around the hat among the skaters and collect enough money for a batch of D cells in a few minutes. Sometimes there was money left over to pay for a cab ride home to the one who had to lug the heavy boombox; no one begrudged him that extra few dollars for the service he performed.

After a while the equipment evolved to systems built around portable car tape players and 12-volt car batteries. If you complained about paying "battery money," it was explained to you that someone had to pay for that battery and then had to pay for charging it and for carfare bringing the system to the park. If you felt a little bit coerced, it was only a dollar and you didn't really have to pay. Then the entrepreneurs moved in; by selling tapes to the crowd they were able to pay for the cost of their equipment and transportation with a healthy profit left over.

That arrangement fell apart because the music was suddenly much too loud. This invoked the wrath of a few powerful residents of Central Park West and Fifth Avenue who were not fans of the House music blaring into their section of the park. Due to some acoustical flukes, a few people even complained about hearing gangster rap in their living rooms. It was actually too loud for a lot of the skaters who had to move down the road away from the deafening decibel level; we begged the DJ to turn down the music, but the economics of the situation demanded that he reach the largest audience in order to draw them in and sell them tapes.

"The skaters" were also blamed for every blaring radio and many a super loud Summerstage concert, but of course Summerstage pays the Conservancy for the use of the Rumsey Playfield and it

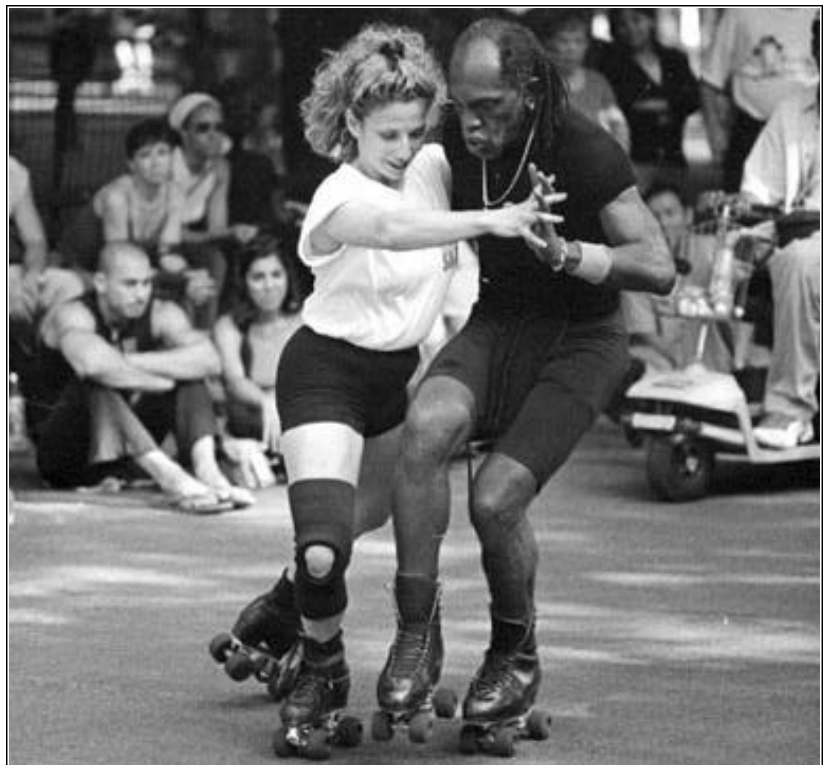
was convenient to place the blame on the unsupervised and untaxed skaters. In order to chase the music and the wild skating and dancing parties out of the most refined heart of southern Central Park, the people who live in the surrounding community supported a stern law and order Mayoral candidate who had a policy of repression of the arts in general and an oddly vehement distrust of any form of dancing. The only time dance is tolerated in New York is when it is specifically licensed by the City.

At first I thought it was some deep psychological insight into the mind of the mayor, no singing, no dancing, no fun allowed. After all these years I finally realized that the mayor had secretly balanced the budget of fun city, by taxing fun, entertainment and any form of relief.; hey, this is a city where it is difficult to find a bathroom unless you are a paying customer.

The mayor moved money out of the budget of the Department of Parks and Recreation, park staff was drastically reduced. Control of Central Park went to a private conservancy. There was talk about charging admission to Central Park. When our music was banned, we didn't get it back until our negotiator, convinced the city that we could pay for the privilege of playing music and dancing. We were permitted to contribute revenue to the City by applying to the Police Department for weekly Amplified Music Permits, which now cost us \$50 per weekend - about \$1200 dollars a year.

This has been going on for the better part of seven seasons, and we just keep paying and paying, but I have a feeling that if anyone to the left of Bernie Goetz is elected mayor this year, things will change for us out in the Circle. I don't know what will happen - my crystal ball is on the fritz -we can only hope for the repeal of the fun tax.

The Skate Circle Lives!



Lisa and Ray show their skills to the crowd at the Circle.

Photo ©2001, Kenneth Nelson

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Skate Circle on TV!

CENTRAL PARK SKATE

Tuesdays, 4pm, Channel 67

NEW YORK SKATE

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Check out our web site:
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CENTRAL PARK DANCE SKATERS ASSOCIATION
14 Washington Place, #11F
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Amount of Contribution

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

Check Cash Money Order

New Member Renewal

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

Member # _____

Date _____



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