



EVENTS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Skating Day
 6pm closing

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Skating Day
 3:00 opening
 Race for the Cure
 DJ NICK JOHNSON

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Skating Day

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Skating Day

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Skating Day
 ROSH HASHANA

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Skating Day

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4

Skating Day

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

Skating Day
 YOM KIPPUR (at sunset)

THE CENTRAL PARK SKATE CIRCLE

takes place every Saturday, Sunday and major holiday in 2003 from April 11th to October 31st. The music plays from 2:30pm to 6:30pm.

OFFICIAL CPDSA CONTACTS:

Lezly Ziering: 212-777-3232

Bob Nichols: 212-246-1344

Fax: 212-541-7871

On the Web: www.CPDSA.org

CPDSA COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Lezly Ziering - Chairman

Bob Nichols

Bill Levy

Muhammed Abdul-Aziz

Alonzo Jones

Calvin Coleman

Carol Spalding

Steven Myrick

An Apple for a Peach

by Lezly Ziering



Bill Butler

Photo ©2003, Bob Nichols

Bill Butler, the “Daddy of Disco Skating,” has left the Big Apple for the Peach State. The summer of 2003 saw our Bill move to Atlanta, Ga., where he will be managing several rinks. I know that all of you join me in wishing Bill much success and fulfillment in his new home & hope that he comes back to us often to visit.

I first became aware of Bill Butler back in the ‘70s before I ever donned urethane wheels. My skating experience had begun at the age of 5 on metal clamp-ons - till age 12 when I graduated to wooden wheels (skating, believe it or not, at Empire, to organ music, till 1949, at age 16). My skating was interrupted by a delightful 30-year career dancing my way around the globe in films, on stage, TV, clubs and cruise ships. I first learned of Disco Skating - and Bill - from a magazine article that featured photos of BB gettin’ down. I was impressed & intrigued, however, it wasn’t until a few years later when two of my favorite dancing partners led me to the Waverly mini-rink in the Village that I saw Disco

Skating in the flesh. I was immediately hooked.

It was not long before I met Le Butler at the Roxy and then in Central Park where his organization, Good Skates, in conjunction with the Dept. of Parks conducted a Disco Skating venue in back of the Mineral Springs concession stand. It was an amazing scene; this tiny area was packed with skaters jamming to a disco beat - the sound system provided, get this, by the same Parks Dept. that some 20 years later, under the Giuliani administration, shut down our music, which necessitated the formation of the CPDSA. One could say that we are a direct descendent of Bill Butler’s Good Skates.

Bill began skating at the age of 5 in Detroit and is still going strong at 69. He has mentored many skaters and his unique style and influence can be seen everywhere there is disco skating. He taught at several rinks in N.Y. including The Key and Empire and has given endlessly of his time and energy to perpetuate his style of dance skating.

The Bill Butler Skate Company has performed Internationally and honored the CPDSA with several memorable performances in our Skateflight Shows. His support meant a great deal to us.

Billy B. we miss you and we love you - you will always be a part of us no matter how far you roll.



Bounce.....Rock.....Skate.....Roll.....Brooklyn skaters in the house! Aretha and Boo get funky in Central Park.

Photo ©2003, Darryl Thomas



Kevin works out on a hot summer day at the Skate Circle.

Photo ©2003, Darryl Thomas

*I joined the
CPDSA...
...and I'm so glad
that I did!!!*

*and I get to vote
on the new
DJ report card!*



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Dr. Janis Brody
**Your Body:
The Girls'
Guide**
(St. Martin's Press)

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



Circle Onlookers

by Bladie Flowness

We skaters are sometimes asked by one of the "Circle Onlookers" if we would teach them how to skate. They ask: "How long would it take for me to skate like you?" I never have an answer for that kind of question because I would have to explain my life to them.

I would have to tell them that the truest, purest goal in life is to look honestly and clearly into yourself and try like hell to understand what you see and to be open to friendships with those around you as you live your daily struggle. You should accept the fact that every human being ever born will have a struggle, some mild and some wild, some against external forces and others against internal emotional turmoil.

I would have to tell them that occasionally, each of us will cross the path of an other who will challenge your humanity, and at that point you will receive the

reward we get from trying to find a way to understand those who confront us and finding the compassion within ourselves to know another's struggle. I would tell the onlooker that when you see me skate, it is a manifestation of the "all"...

Of course, I could never subject an onlooker to all of this; much less convey to them that there is a place deep within us where our individual skating styles come from; so I tell them:

"Get yourself some wheels and just come out here. Everybody will soon be your teacher."

We are looking for new stories & photos!

If you are a CPDSA member interested writing an article or if you have any recent photos taken at the Circle that you would like to submit, please e-mail our editor at marci@cpdsa.org.



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Getting into the groove.

Photo ©2003, Darryl Thomas

The View from Skaters Road

by Bob Nichols

On Saturday, July 19th, Central Park celebrated its 150th anniversary. Events were scheduled all over the Park to mark the day. The CPDSA was informed long before that day that Special Events permits would not be issued for our regular activities on that day, because some of the festivities would be spilling out into our area.

This is not an entirely unusual occurrence. Skaters Road, the place where we hold our weekly skate dance parties, is officially known as "The Dead Road" and is designated as a mixed use area. It can be the finish line for the NY Olympics bid Triathlon, the parking lot for a film shoot or a big event at the bandshell or the staging area for any number of festivals. In the last few years it has magically transformed itself into a supernatural Pumpkin patch for the Children's Halloween Celebration.

In fact, when the CPDSA formed, one of the functions that was contemplated for us by the Parks Dept. was as a communications conduit, a liaison between Parks official planners and the skaters who show up every weekend. We agreed to forgo bringing out our music system on the days when the Park needed our area in exchange for our right to be out there on those days when it was not needed for another special event.

This arrangement has worked out pretty well for us over the past nine seasons. We average approximately one day per month when we are not allowed to come out because of an event scheduled in our area or because the park is totally locked down and no one is allowed in.

As the July 19th Central Park birthday approached, Parks and Conservancy employees confided to me that they were very busy with the preparations and that an enormous amount of work was being done by them to try to

make things work smoothly. For me, the day was a perfect mid-summer opportunity to get out to the beach and do some boogie board surfing.

On Sunday, July 20th, as we set up the equipment for the Circle, one of our skaters told me that there had been no other event set up in our area and that it had been used as a portapotty staging area. She was outraged because there was room for the portapotties further south on the road - up the hill - where they are normally located during large park events. She was also enraged by the fact that there had been a film crew from the Parks Revenue Dept. searching for us so that they could document our activities as part of the birthday celebrations.

In the weeks following the birthday, our Chairman, Lezly, questioned officials in the top echelons of the Conservancy and discovered that there had been a last minute cancellation of a Jazz mobile concert scheduled for our area and time period. We were quite disappointed by the fact that we were never contacted by anyone in the Parks Dept. or Conservancy, never advised that we could have come out and skated on that day. Although it had been a very last minute cancellation, if we have the proper official sanctions in place, we can be out in the park and set up to play with a two or three hour warning.

To all the skaters out in the park that day who found a line of portable toilets instead of the Skate Circle; I'd like to convey the sincere apologies of the responsible parties at the Conservancy.

I was especially disappointed because somewhere along the way I had imagined that our area could be used to set up a huge cake for Central Park's birthday with 151 candles and a huge crowd of people singing Happy Birthday...

The Skate Circle Lives!

Skate Circle Documentary Film

by Steve Lindsey

Many incarnations of the skate circle have appeared through the years in the form of short films, TV spots, international travel logs, and news coverage. Finally, a group of skate circle regulars have already begun pre-production for a full theatrical-length documentary film about the skate circle, its history, and the people that bring it to life. This production will explore the skating culture like never before, and as progress moves forward with the project, the filmmakers are asking the CPDSA and the skaters for their help. For the remainder of the skate circle

season, the production team will be inviting you to share stories, memories, and views about the skate circle and your part in it. The stars of this film are you - the skaters. What you have to say about our community and the art of dance-skating may be featured in the film, as well as shape the direction the story takes. If you are interested in participating, the producers would love to hear from you. Please e-mail us at SKATEDANCEDOC@HOTMAIL.COM. Your involvement will make a difference and could just land you a starring role!



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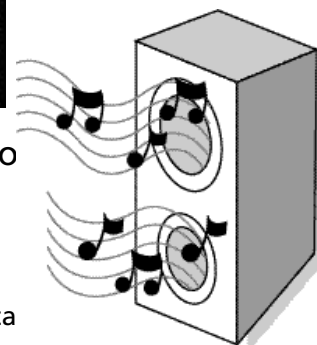
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The CPDSA would like to thank



for their generous donation of our new speakers for the 2003 season, and for their most recent contribution of new peripheral speakers that carry our music at the north and south ends of the Circle.

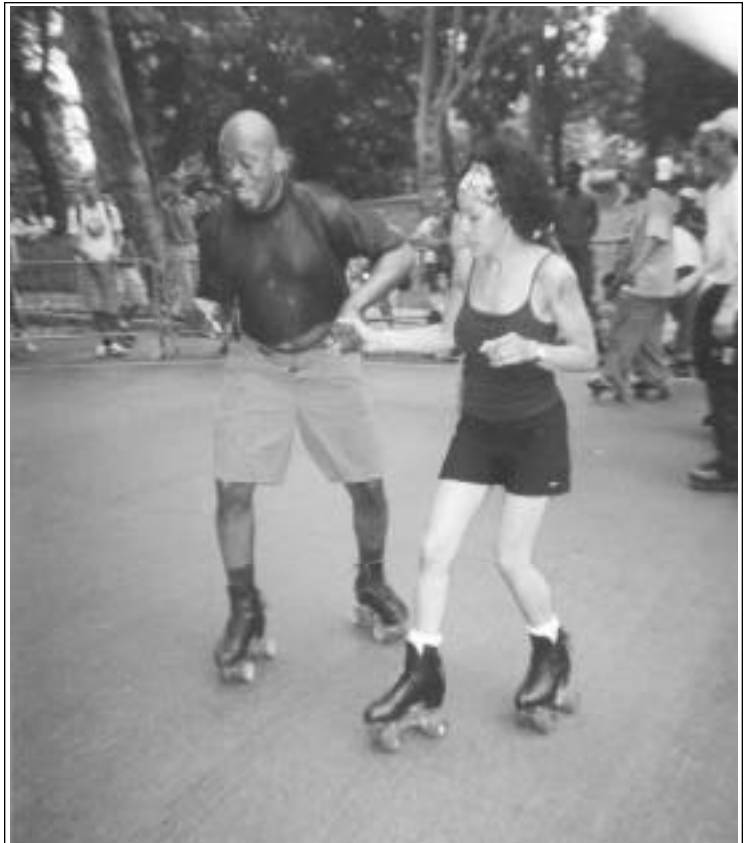


人道

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These dance-skaters bounce to the beat, but they could not beat the heat this summer.

Photo ©2003, Darryl Thomas



Join us! CPDSA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____

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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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