

## MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

### 05/28 SATURDAY

DJ Stormin' Norman

### 05/29 SUNDAY

DJ Q

### 05/30 MONDAY, MAY 30

DJ Mike Dominico

### 06/4 SATURDAY, JUNE 4

DJ Rob Scott

### 06/05 SUNDAY

NO SKATING  
Israel Day Parade

### 06/11 SATURDAY

NO SKATING  
Mississippi Day Picnic

### 06/12 SUNDAY

NO SKATING  
Puerto Rico Day Parade

### 06/18 SATURDAY

NO SKATING  
Adventures In New York City

### 06/19 SUNDAY

NO SKATING  
Father's Day

### 06/25 SATURDAY JUNE 25

DJ Duce Martinez

### 06/26 SUNDAY

DJ Andre Collins

## THE CENTRAL PARK SKATE CIRCLE

takes place most Saturdays, Sundays and major holidays in 2014 from April 2nd through October 30th. 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](http://www.CPDSA.org)

**E-mail** [info@cpdsa.org](mailto:info@cpdsa.org)

## CPDSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bob Nichols, President  
Gwen White, Secretary  
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Yvette Gauthier  
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Jose Rivera  
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Vera Sinnreich  
Tessell Williams

Bobbi Bongard: Editing, Production

## The Skate Circle

Every spring, the Skate Circle returns to Central Park. We skaters do not abandon the park in the winter, though; some years a small group continues skating year round. Still, some New York winters can be extremely harsh, with frigid temperatures and a great deal of snow, so that we must forgo outdoor roller skating for months at a time. By April, however, as the flowering cherry trees begin to blossom, the Central Park Skate Circle starts rolling again.

Our area of Central Park has a long tradition of skating. We have found photos of roller skaters and a poster for a Halloween skate party in the park from the 1930's. There is a famous photo of ice skaters on the rowboat lake from the 1890's. The Skate Circle began in the early 1980's, but it wasn't until the Guiliani administration tried to chase us out of the park, in 1995, that the Central Park Dance Skaters Association formed. We had to fight for our place in the park in the only way possible - negotiating with the Parks Department, jumping through all the official legal hoops and paying for all the requisite permits.

Over the years, the CPDSA has grown and matured; we have become a federally recognized 501-c-3 non-profit corporation.

We have done whatever was necessary to cooperate with all the City agencies and departments with jurisdiction over the park. We have gained the grudging respect of the Parks Department, the Central Park Conservancy and much of the Central Park Precinct.

Each year is a little different, new challenges arise and we find a way to meet them. We have changed slowly, but our fundamental mission remains the same: to roller skate and dance, outdoors in the park to the best contemporary dance music available. Technical advances have allowed us to go from our DJs playing cassette tapes on DC powered car radio units, to the AC inverter technology that allowed them to play vinyl record on turntables, then CDs on modern decks and now MP3s on laptop computers. Technology changes.

What hasn't changed is our desire, our determination to keep this joyful, slightly crazy activity alive. On Memorial day we honor those members of our skate family who have gone on to that celestial skating rink in the sky; where we hope to spend eternity with our friends. Until then, we must content ourselves with the next best thing: the Skate Circle in Central Park.



CPDSA Skate Family portrait—opening day 2016



**Chantal—next generation CPDSA Skater**



**Robin & James**



**A Bride and Groom visit the Skate Circle**

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

...or just someone genuinely willing to be a part of the group that keeps the skate circle rolling?  
Would you like to contribute stories or photos for consideration in our next newsletter?  
**please contact: [info@cpdsa.org](mailto:info@cpdsa.org)**



**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>



**Amy G. shows us how it's done**



**James entertains our Canadian friends**

# The View from Skaters Road

by Bob Nichols, President, CPDSA

We have had a cool spring this year, with more than our share of rain. We had some really good days, too. April and May flew past, cold one week and warm the next. We dressed for the weather, came out to the park and skated our hearts out. Memorial Day weekend—the unofficial beginning of summer—is here, the weather is finally warming up and it's starting to feel like summer.

On Memorial day we honor the memory of those who have died in their service to our country. At the Skate Circle, we also remember members of our skate family who have passed. This Memorial Day we have an especially difficult loss to acknowledge, our long time President and Skate Guru, Lezly Ziering; who died last July, at the age of 82.

Lezly had a wonderful career as a dancer, choreographer and teacher. He formed his own dance school and when he took up skating, he immediately added skating and dance skating to the courses offered. He became “The Skate Guru” and taught thousands to skate and dance. He was a performer, consultant and choreographer for films and Broadway shows.

When Mayor Guiliani threatened to end skating in Central Park, Lezly was on the vanguard of the fight to keep us skating. His charisma and leadership were key to forming a Committee to win back our right to skate in the park. That committee became the Central Park Dance Skaters Association. We owe a debt of gratitude to Lezly for

his work and devotion to the CPDSA and the Skate Circle.

There are too many other skaters who have left us over the past 22 seasons to mention them all, but we must remember Roxy DJ Julio, who did so much to keep roller skating alive in New York. The Skate Circle was his home away from the Roxy. He lit the place up when he played for us and Memorial Day was his favorite time to play.

Now that summer is finally here, we are ready to take advantage of the good weather for skating in the park. Sadly, when you look at the CPDSA schedule for this June you will find the fewest skating days we have ever had in one calendar month; our Special events permits only allow us three days in the park this June!

One event after another preempts our skating. The Parks Department and Conservancy collect big bucks for the major events staged in the park. Money talks and there is little we can do to change things. We can only hold our event when we have the dates in our permits.

The good news is that July and August are much more open to us. With the exception of the Triathlon weekend on the 23rd and 24th we have the entire month of July; almost all of August, too. September and October are also reasonably clear of big events. This makes the days we have even more precious. As we do every year, we will skate every day we possibly can and will cherish every one of them.

The Skate Circle Lives!



**DJ Kervyn Mark**



**DJ Bobby Morales**



**DJ Jay Stewart**

# Thank You 2016 CPDSA New and Renewing Members

The CPDSA thanks these current 2016 members whose generosity allows us to keep rolling.

Jose Alma  
 Martha Anderson  
 Bobbi Bongard  
 Gary Bowler  
 Dave Britton  
 Val Brochard  
 Kobi Bromley  
 Denes Carpenter  
 Terry & Janice Collins  
 Darryl Davis

Lynna Davis  
 Amanda Edell  
 Beth Emerson  
 Richard Epstein  
 Peggy Flefleh  
 Jeff Goldberg  
 Calbert Green  
 Richard Hassard  
 Merri Interiors  
 Ute Kammerer

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 Gary Lesser  
 Tommy McInnis  
 Mark Merschen  
 Gail Myrick  
 Justin Myrick  
 Steve Myrick  
 Robin Ostrow

Amy Rea  
 Lisa Reich  
 Roz Reich  
 Jose Rivera  
 Zulma Rodriguez  
 Sunshine Straiges  
 Dalys "Panama" Torres  
 Tom Winslow  
 Rebecca Zaretsky  
 Robbin Ziering



Blade sees things differently



Bobby Morales leads the skaters in a salute to Prince

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## CPDSA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



**JOIN US!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home or Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Work or Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please make a copy of this membership application and mail it, along with your contribution, to the CPDSA address below. You can get additional applications and more information from our staff members at the CPDSA Skate Circle, located mid-park, just west of the bandshell. To find us, enter Central Park at East or West 72nd street on weekend days between 3 and 7 PM and walk along Terrace Drive toward the center of the park. Listen for our dance music, you'll find us.

**Contribution:**

\$25     \$50     \$100     Other \_\_\_\_\_

New Member     Renewal



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