

THE ROUNDUP

JUNE, 2001



BOOTS 'N' BUCKLES NEWSLETTER

Volume 12 Issue 6



I usually try to keep this message 'light', but this month's message is a somber one. I am very concerned about the future of the Boots 'n' Buckles Dance Club, not from a financial standpoint, but from the apparent lack of interest from the general membership about joining the Board of Directors.

I am concerned because, since I announced in last month's Roundup that three of the four executive Board of Directors positions will be vacant next year, not one club member has approached me to ask about any of the openings. No one has expressed an interest in what each position does, or to volunteer

the name of someone whom they thought should be considered for a spot on the Board.

When I joined the Board three years ago, we had four open positions out of the twelve that are defined in the club's by-laws. Ever since then I have (gently) mentioned that the board needs your help. In 2000, I was able to get a previous board member to re-join the Board to take over Membership and Insurance. In 2000, we did not have a Secretary; a direct violation of our by-laws. Several Board members volunteered to share the secretarial duties, and we managed to get by. In 2001, we managed to solicit a volunteer for this position. We are still four people short on the board, and my gentle approach to get these positions filled has not worked. I have decided, in this month's message, to be more direct.

According to the by-laws, the club cannot continue to be a club without the executive positions filled. In addition, only members in these positions can sign the checks, and the checks require two signatures. I mentioned last month that the position of Treasurer, Vice President, and President will be vacant effective December 31, 2001. This leaves only one executive position filled: Secretary. Again, the club cannot continue to be a club without a Board of Directors.

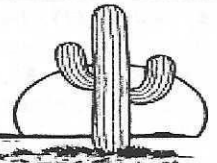
Some of you members will have to step forward to keep the club going. Because we need to fill executive positions, volunteers will have to identify themselves no later than July 20th. Why then? That is when I need to create the ballot for the election to be held in August and submit it to the editor of the Roundup so that it will be in the August newsletter.

We also need the new board members to start attending the one-hour a month board meetings, starting in October to ensure a smooth transition to the year 2002. I am very serious about the club being in jeopardy if at least three of the 120 members do not offer their services.

You say that you do not know how to do what is required of the three openings? Neither did any of the current board members when they took over their current duties. The 'old' board members helped us 'new' folks learn what was needed, and it seems that common sense went a long way in keeping the club moving forward. I think that there are way more than three of you who could do as good as, if not a better job, in any of the upcoming openings.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my three years on the Board, and I thank Bill Parrish for asking me to volunteer to join the Board way back in October of 1998. It is time for me to move on, and to let someone else steer the club into the future. I am not planning to disappear: I will help the new board where ever and when ever I can, but I can no longer devote my full energies to the job as your club President after this year.

If you care about keeping the doors open at Boots 'n' Buckles in 2002, please spend a few minutes chatting with me on any Friday night, or call me at home (510-490-3236), or e-mail me (bob_webber@msn.com). Don't wait for someone else to come charging in at the last moment to save the club. It won't happen.



Friday, June 1, 2001

Line dance with Bob & Lynette

All lessons start at 8:00 pm

Saturday, June 2, 2001

**5th Annual Workshop
& Dance Social**

Workshops: 12:00 to 6:00 pm

Dance: 8:00 to 11:00 pm

at Swiss Park

Limited tickets available at the door . . .

Friday, June 15, 2001



Yee Ha!

Bring
Finger
Food
to
Share

BONUS:

Line dance lesson with Trish Boesel

at 8:00 pm

See flyer in this newsletter.

Review this dance on June 22 with Connie Silva

Hi Gang:

Well here we are on our last part of our trip. I have really enjoyed telling you about our trip. Now arriving in Edinburgh-- what a neat city. You could spend a week here, there is so much to do. Edinburgh Castle sits on top of the city's hillside-- a magnificent site to see from all parts of the city below. The largest castle in Scotland, it dates back to the 12th century. Amazing how old it is yet it is still as sound as when they built it. You could easily spend 4 hours or more there trying to see it all. It is the home of the Scottish Crown Jewels, the oldest Royal Regalia in Britain. Edinburgh has the oldest Bank of Scotland founded in 1695, and also has Jenners, the oldest independent department store in the world. Went to Queen's Holyrood Palace, the official residence of the Queen in Scotland. She comes once a year to visit but doesn't even spend the night, and at that time they turn on the fountains which are around the grounds. Seems such a waste. The monarch who designed and had it built never saw it completed. The crime in Edinburgh back in the 17 and 18 hundreds became so bad that not even merchant ships would dock there. They had short cuts [passageways] you could go through to get to the next street, but they were so dangerous to use that many who did so never came out alive. Went to a great Scottish dinner show and found out what they wear under their kilts. NOTHING! Had some famous Haggis to eat at the Ceremony of the Haggis. It is made from a sheep's insides and they are heavily spiced and cooked in the stomach lining. My friend Nelson and I drank 3 + bottles of wine, which helped us, feel no pain, so it wasn't too difficult to eat it. You can use your own imagination on this one. Leaving Scotland coming back into England we saw a section of Hadrian's Wall which the Romans built coast to coast as a defense against marauding northern tribes. The wall was 80 miles long at one time. Arriving in the city of York where they had streets named by the type of merchants. Jewel street for jewelry merchants, Bake Street for bakers and so on. Back a hundred years or more they used to display fresh meat for sale outside on tables, but the sun would spoil it if it weren't shaded. As time went on they built the stores across from each other closer with the buildings leaning inward almost touching each other. This made it shaded all of time and helped keep the meat from spoiling. The street was no wider than a small car could drive down. From there on down to Stratford where you could see Ann Hathaway's Cottage, the wife of Shakespeare, and see Shakespeare's Birthplace. You could also listen to the tale of Lady Godiva who rode into town naked on her horse. Her husband being a Lord and owning most of the town said he was going to raise taxes again and he wasn't very nice to his people. She was upset with his behavior and threatened to ride naked into town if he didn't change his ways. He didn't believe her so she did it and he was greatly embarrassed and he did change his ways and reportedly became a better person. Leanne threatened to do the same thing to me, except come to the dance naked on a horse, so I became a very nice person as you can see. On towards Bladon where the old buzzard Winston Churchill is buried. Stopping at Oxford for a lunch break and went over to Oxford University to see some of my old Professors when I attended there. [HaHa] From there back to London passing The Royal Windsor, dominated by the largest inhabited castle in the world. We finally made it back to London ending our trip with the bus. We took three extra days being on our own. We saw Buckingham Palace, Tower of London, St. Paul's Cathedral, Big Ben, and all the sites we could get in in three days. We took the underground train system where you could get anywhere in London. It was just fantastic making our BART system look amateur. Had a nice farewell dinner with some friends we met on the bus for our final good byes to our trip. All in all we had a great time meeting people over there and seeing all the sites. We went almost 4,000 miles on our trip. Up at 5AM to head out to the airport for a 10-1/2 to 11 hour flight home [approximately 5,500 air miles]. At the airport I buttered up the gal at the ticket gate and told her what a beautiful country she lived in and how nice the English were etc., and got good seats on the flight home. I did the same thing to the flight attendant and got extra care and drinks. Long ride home but glad to be home in the good old U.S.A. Leanne and I enjoyed sharing our trip with you and look forward to seeing you at the dance.

BOB & LEANNE



It is really a pleasure to write this report, because April proved to be our most profitable month so far this year. All four dances during the month were profitable, and much of that is due to the great participation we had in the 50-50 raffle. We ended the month with a gain of \$179, and since the raffle sales

provided us \$197 for the month, you can see that our profit for the month was attributed to our raffle sales.

Workshop ticket sales brought in \$792 for the month, and some of that money will go towards printing and binding the programs that will be provided to each workshop attendee. And speaking of printing, it now costs about \$1 to print and mail each newsletter, so we are looking into ways to reduce those costs. We ended the month with a loss of \$234.41, but if you factor in the rent, which was received in early May, we would have finished the month with a profit of \$565.59. At the end of April, our bankbook balance stood at \$10,461.78, so the financial health of the club is very sound, and we plan to keep it that way for the rest of the year. Let's keep those feet dancing.

Lynette Webber, Treasurer

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU ...



John Shaw	6/2
Sharon Goodman	6/7
Linda Gifford	6/11
Josie Kirth	6/13
Kathy Martin	6/15
Glenda Castain	6/19
Bill Pearce	6/22
Peter Iversen	6/24
Jim Berberich	6/29
Beth Sliter	6/29

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

CELEBRATE WITH US FRIDAY, JUNE 15TH

SPECIAL BONUS: IT'S LINE DANCE LESSON NIGHT!!

**LESSON TAUGHT BY TRISH BOESEL
(FREE WITH ADMISSION TO DANCE)**

BRING FINGER FOOD TO SHARE (OPTIONAL)

MOST OF ALL BRING YOURSELF FOR THE FUN

SWISS PARK, NEWARK

ADMISSION: \$8.00 NON-MEMBERS, \$6.00 MEMBERS

LESSON: 8:00 PM TO 8:30 PM

DANCE: 8:00 PM UNTIL 11:30 PM WITH DJ BOB HUBBARD

- **ASK ABOUT OUR MEMBERSHIPS & CLUB MERCHANDISE -**
 - **A GREAT FATHER'S DAY GIFT**





Our plane left Gatwick for Monstair somewhere around 6:00 PM on Sunday evening. It was a two hour flight but we lost an hour, so it was well after 9:00 PM when we arrived in Tunisia. The flight was full, maybe 120 people or so and they were all going for the Dancing In the Desert tour. Most of them were from England, Scotland and Wales, except for 9 Americans and one tall Canadian. Once we made it through Customs, our tour guides from JMC showed us where to find our buses that would take us to Hammamet and our hotel. Our tour guide was named Julia and since she lived in Hammamet, she was a wealth of knowledge about the area. Julia had a charming British accent and reminded me of a blond Katherine Hepburn. She was also one of the instructors on the tour and would be teaching Oriental dancing. After a long drive in the dark that seemed to go

on forever, Julia announced that we were arriving and the hotel would be serving us a full buffet dinner and a welcome Thiburine cocktail. Best of all, the bar would be open until 2:00 for those of us who could not wait to start line dancing.

The next morning Julia held an informational meeting with everyone in her group, instructing us on where to go, money exchange and tours. After that she took us on a walking tour of Hammamet. Next, many of us went on a tour with Ray who was actually one of the people responsible for organizing the tour. Yvonne referred to him as Ray from the UK." Ray took us to one of the local government shops to look at leather and other gift items. Being a government shop meant the prices were fixed and you did not haggle with the shop keepers to bring down the prices.. After shopping and tea, we went into Hammamet to the medina. At the medina was a market place where they sell everything and the art of haggling is a necessity. That evening, most of us met for dinner in the dining room and then went to the disco to line dance. This was an interesting experience. The DJ (usually Ray) would play songs, many of which we Americans knew a line dance to. To our surprise, so did the British, however, it could be a completely different dance from what we knew. For the most part, everyone mingled and shared their dances and the dance floor. The British wore Western Clothes, hats and boots, however, they danced mostly to non-country music. And did they ever love to dance. It was really inspirational to have so many people from such different lifestyles come together and be able to share this one common bond. The next morning, everyone in our group had their own tours decided, so most of us split up and went our separate ways. Jim and I decided to go on the Winery/Market tour where our first stop was the market place in Nabeul. This was an incredible and intimidating experience, because it was market day for the local people. Hundreds of people in their native costumes were shopping either on foot or on donkeys, for food, clothing and whatever else they could carry. The market place was scattered all over the hillside and along a very dusty street. It was difficult to walk with so many people carrying huge baskets of goods. Every time we stopped to look at something at one of the stands, the vendors wanted us to haggle. Jim almost bought half of Tunisia, because he did not know how to say NO." At 11:00 am, the native people put on a show for the shoppers that included belly dancers, trick horseback riding and juggling. We were told this is common practice at each market place. Each village has a market on a different day of the week. From the market place, we headed to the southern part of Tunisia that was quite a contrast from the coastal and desert areas we had been seeing. There were mountains and a lot of grassy farmlands. The countryside was dotted with sheep herders and, of course, sheep, and lots of local people dressed in their native costumes. Tunisian wear lots of bright colors, especially red. We saw the region where the Berbers still dwell in caves today. The winery we went to was quite high in the mountain region. We were surprised to know that there were several wine making families in Tunisia. The technology was introduced somewhere around the 17th century by the Spaniards and French who settled in Tunisia. We got to watch the assembly line, however, it kept breaking down. Almost everything was done manually, with people physically inspecting the labels and bottles. Everytime the assembly line would go down, the workers would laugh and wait patiently for it to start again. It seemed as if there may be a lack of electricity there for some reason. Although Tunisia is an Islamic country, it produces a lot of wine as well as Brandy. After the winery tour, we were hosted to appetizers and wine tasting and then a beautiful lunch. One thing we began to notice was the fact that all the men, even on the assembly line, were wearing suits and ties. They may have a smock to cover the suit, but under it they were all dressed up. The winery personnel and the waiters also. Now that we were aware of this, we began noticing some of the truck drivers and delivery personnel also dressed in suits. After lunch, we started back to Hammamet, which took a little over an hour from where we were. Charlotte was teaching a beginners workshop at 4:00 but by the time we got back, the weather was so nice, all I wanted to do was lay beside the pool. That night we were too full from lunch to eat a big dinner, but we did all meet in the disco for dancing till closing. On Wednesday, Jim and I went on tour to the Holy City of Kairouan. We visited two mosques and two minarets. The mosques were breathtaking. The doors were exquisitely carved and the pillars were made of marble and were hundreds of feet high. The courtyards were marble and the chandeliers inside were like none I have ever seen. Although we could not go inside the mosques, we could look in through the doors and take pictures as well. Kairouan is the fourth most holy city in the Islamic world. After the mosques, we visited the Kairouan carpet making area that is the oldest in Tunisia. It was amazing to see the women weaving these carpets from memory, with no pattern to go by. The carpets were beautiful and of course the shopkeepers were willing to haggle. Mike Barattas brother-in-law came home with 3 or more carpets, if I am not mistaking. That night Jim and I decided to go to one of the local restaurants for dinner so we walked a short distance to the Village of Hammamet. The restaurant we ate at was very nice but we and one other couple were the only ones there. Our waiter did not speak much English, but the service was very good. It was here we discovered that no matter what you ordered, rice, pasta, pizza, whatever, you would also be served olives and chips. The chips were similar to French Fries but much better and not greasy at all. They also served tuna fish with most of the salads and a condiment that was very similar to chilies. I noticed they had a bar so I decided to have a Scotch & Soda. Our waiter brought the Scotch in a glass over ice and then before I could say anything he poured a bottle of coke on top of it. I guess something was lost in the translation. Deserts are also very popular but they are made with more natural things like dates and figs. They do not use frostings or toppings as we do. After dinner it was back to the disco for more dancing and sharing our experiences of the day. Liam Hrycam who is a world famous British choreographer some of you may be familiar with, taught a workshop in the afternoon. We were so busy, I forgot all about it. Liam is 18 years old and quite a character. He was very pleased that chips were part of the Tunisian diet. In fact, every night at 10:00 they served them near the pool area and we could always count on Liam to bring a plate or two into the disco.

There is so much to tell, I hope I am not boring everyone to death. I am afraid I need to carry this over one more month. Next month I will tell you about the city of Carthage, Sidi Bou Said and all of the people, some we knew and some we met. I promise that will be the last time so bear with me and thanks for reading.



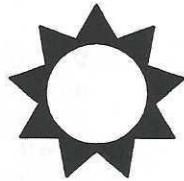
DID YA ALL KNOW that Solstice, pronounced SAHL stih, is one of the two moments each year when the sun is at either its northernmost or southernmost position. The sun appears directly overhead at different latitudes during the year because of the tilt of the earth's axis of rotation. One solstice occurs on June 20, 21, or 22, (the 21st this year) when the sun reaches its most northerly point, directly overhead at the Tropic of Cancer.. At the other solstice, on December 21 or 22, the sun appears at its most southerly position, directly overhead at the Tropic of Capricorn .

In the Northern Hemisphere, the June solstice is known as the summer solstice, and the December solstice is called the winter solstice. The day of the summer solstice in the Northern Hemisphere is the longest day of the year. This day marks the beginning of summer. Similarly, the winter solstice occurs on the shortest day of the year and marks the beginning of winter. In the Southern Hemisphere, summer and winter are reversed. Happy Summer

Swiss Park Dance Classes

JUNE 2001

MONDAY
(Intermediate / Advanced)



WEDNESDAY
(Beginner / Easy Intermediate)

<p align="center">~4th~</p> <p>"K.I.S.S" (Eric Sellers)</p> <p>"FOR KEEP'S" (Charlotte Skeeters)</p>	<p align="center">~6th~</p> <p><i>(Connie teaching next 2 Wednesday's while I'm in Oz)</i></p> <p>"IT'S RAINING MEN" (Gina Mello)</p> <p>"FOREVER AN APRIL FOOL"</p>
<p align="center">~11th~</p> <p><i>(Mike Sliter teaching class tonight while I'm in Oz)</i></p> <p>"DANCING HEARTS" (Michael Barr)</p> <p>"FOREVER AN APRIL FOOL"</p>	<p align="center">~13th~</p> <p>"KALIMBA"</p> <p align="center">~ Something from B&B Workshop ~</p>
<p align="center">~18th~</p> <p align="center">~ Something from Australia ~</p>	<p align="center">~20th~</p> <p>"K.I.S.S" (Eric Sellers)</p> <p>"PICK A POCKET" (John Robinson)</p>
<p align="center">~25th~</p> <p>"HOT POTATO" (John Robinson)</p> <p align="center">~ REVIEW LAST 2 MONTHS ~</p>	<p align="center">~27th~</p> <p>"DANCING HEARTS" (Michael Barr)</p> <p align="center">~ REVIEW LAST 2 MONTHS ~</p>
<p>I will be in Australia for part of June! The following classes will be taught by...</p> <p align="center">Mike Sliter will teach on the 11th Connie Silva will teach on the 6th & 13th ~ Please come and support them ~</p>	<p>7:30 Review, 8-9:00 Lesson, 9-9:45 Dancing Drop in classes \$6 - no sign ups necessary Free Step Descriptions for all dances taught Class e' info. CharSkeeters@aol.com Tel. Info. (925) 462-6572 (push #3) Instructor: Charlotte Skeeters & Guests</p>

SWISS PARK DANCE HALL, Fremont/Newark, CA - From Hwy 880, exit West on Mowry Avenue, Turn right at the 1st light. The Dance Hall is the building on your left, next to a small Park. Social Dances every Friday hosted by the "Boots N' Buckles" Dance Club. Club contact: Bob_Webber@msn.com or Kmartin2@LFSUS.JNJ.CO

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What is a Dad?

A Dad is a person who is loving and kind,
And often he knows what you have on your mind.
He's someone who listens, suggests, and defends ~
A dad can be one of your very best friends!
He's proud of your triumphs, but when things go wrong,
A dad can be patient and helpful and strong.



In all that you do, a dad's love plays a part ~
There's always a place for him deep in your heart ~
And each year that passes, you're even more glad,
More grateful and proud just to call him your dad!
Thank you, Dad . . . for listening and caring
For giving and sharing, but especially for just being YOU!
Dave & Sonya



THE ROUNDUP
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