



The Foghorn

Serving The Foggy City Dancers • San Francisco, California
Vol. 23 • No. 4 Fourth Quarter • 2007

Mainstream Class to Graduate at 24th Anniversary Dance

Foggy City has been dancing at different venues for the past few years, but on November 3, we will be returning to our old stomping grounds at the First Unitarian Center. Our traditional Anniversary Dance caller will once again be Mike DeSisto.

Reviving another tradition, the current Mainstream class will graduate at that location, making the dance a double celebration. 🍷

As we embark on our 25th year and start to look back at a quarter century, Mike is pictured here at a dance in 1994.



The Further Adventures of a Convention Virgin

By Steve Huggins

In our last issue, Steve related his experiences as a novice conventioneer. In this final installment, the adventurous Steve will brave the forces of nature.

Man Against the Elements



The Fun Badge tour started with everyone walking to a huge sculpture of two dancers. We danced a few tips at their feet, then boarded buses for the next destination: the 50 yard line at Invesco Field! I'm not a football fan, but it was really exciting to be down on the field, even if the stands were empty. Then back on the buses

for our next location: the Red Rocks amphitheater! What a beautiful place to dance, and we got a chance to see Denver's outskirts. Then back on the buses to our last stop: The Natural History Museum, which had a great view of Denver's skyline. Dancing outside at these places was very cool, attracting attention from onlookers who wanted to know what it was all about. After the fun badge tour ended, I was finally able to sleep soundly the rest of day and into the night. No more dancing, thank goodness.

After a night of sound sleep was the last convention related activity: White Water Rafting on the Clear Creek. It was a miserable day; gray skies and hail! The water was

freezing and the rapids were only Class 2, but it was great fun! I had never been white water rafting before, so I was worried about being tossed into the creek. While I stayed in the raft through all the rapids, we did lose two members of our team (both survived) in one of the larger rapids.

Returning to the hotel and chatting with the others on the bus, I knew this would not be my last convention. I made so many new friends I was starting to feel a little sad that it was all over. Back in my room, looking through all the literature and pictures, I started looking forward to next year in Cleveland. And the next year in DC. And.... And.... Oh my gosh, I think I'm addicted :) The good kind of addicted! 🍷



Board of Directors

President

Richard Perez

Vice President

[Open]

Treasurer

Rusty Johnson

Secretary

Michael Golden

Members-at-Large

Duane Flohra

Lee Griffiths

Steve Huggins

Angi Lewis

The Foghorn

Newsletter Committee

Editor

Gary Cohn

Contributing Writers

Steve Huggins

Members are encouraged to submit articles, photos, and letters to the editor for publication in ensuing issues.

Web Address

<http://foggycity.org/>

Mailing Address

PO Box 14324

San Francisco, CA 94114

President's Message

From Richard Perez



Something Old, Something New

It might seem I am writing about a wedding, but I am not. It's about November 3rd, 2007 that I am here to discuss. But the saying applies nonetheless.

As many of you already know, we started a new accelerated mainstream class, and through our outreach, we have about 12 to 14 new students. And what a great job Harlan Kerr has done with them! It seems strange to me that they are finished, and will be graduating so quickly. So on this special day, we'll hold their graduation and give our new members their well-deserved diplomas and badges.

Now for the something old: It's Foggy City's 24th Anniversary, with the one and only Mike DeSisto calling. What a way to spend the evening, celebrating with the new members and wishing ourselves another 24 great years.

This is the prelude to the coming year, since we plan to have a special "Silver" Anniversary next year. We'll make sure to keep you posted on special events that will lead into our 25th Anniversary!

On the subject of 25th Anniversary, please remember that the 2008 Convention, to be held in Cleveland, Ohio will mark the convention's "Silver" anniversary. Make sure to make your plans early. I'll be there to enjoy the celebration!

Hugs,
Richard



Current Bay Area callers **Rich Reel** (far left) and **Neil Heather** (far right) at their 1995 graduation ceremony at the Unitarian Center.

Back in the Saddle David Boyd



David Boyd
Mainstream: WSD 1986
Plus: WSD 1987
Foggy City: 2007 –

David began dancing in his 20s with Western Star (pictured below). He remembers, “It was definitely a good way to connect with people.”

In his 30s, he settled down in Walnut Creek, and he and his partner joined Diablo Dancers. They enjoyed fly-ins and the conventions in D.C., Chicago, Portland and Vancouver. He moved back to San Francisco and a long break from dancing. “I thought that at some point, the time would be right for me to get back into square dancing. I finally realized that I simply had to decide to make time for it. And so, here I am, back into it!

I enjoy the time learning with my Foggy City classmates, as I am a bit rusty after all these years. And the location is actually quite convenient, just a short bus ride away! When I’m not dancing or working, I’m at home with my two cats as well as doing the iTunes and YouTube thing. But square dancing has definitely become a great way to once again connect with actual people!” 🍷



ACTIONS of the Board

Recorded by
Michael Golden,
Secretary



- FCD will lend its name and support for the (Second Annual) Inter-Club Holiday Social as presented by John Kenney.
- The FCD Board has contracted with the First Unitarian Universalist Church and Center for use of their hall for our November 3, 2007 Anniversary Dance and Mainstream Graduation Ceremony. The photograph (below, right) is from an Anniversary Dance a decade ago.
- Angi Lewis (pictured below, left) has been elected to be a Board Member at Large.



Foggy City Time Capsule

With the 24th Anniversary celebration, the Foggy City Dancers are entering their quarter-century year. People have come and gone, and events and traditions have evolved over the years. Even this newsletter has had three different names. Randomly selecting vintage news items can serve as a reminder of days gone by.

1990

Allan Berenstein was inaugurated President of FCD and served for the next five years.

1991

The first Annual FCD Barn Dance & Barbecue was held at Charter Oaks Farm in San Mateo County. After 4 years of barn dances, the event was superseded by the annual Harvest Dance.

1995

Our newsletter, *The Foggy City News*, took on a new name, *The Foghorn* (suggested by 1995 Mainstream class member **Jim Mavrikios**).

1997

With the departure for Paris of *The Foghorn* editrix **Erin Blackwell**, and the well-earned retirement of newsletter Art Director **Joe Hull**, for the first time, a one-sheet special edition—dubbed *The Fogwhistle*—was published.

1999

The high point of the Annual Picnic, held on September 18 with caller **Neil Heather**, was the Dog Tip, where pets showed their leashed masters how to square-through four on all fours.



Former Foggy City President Allan Berenstein officiated during commencement ceremonies at the Unitarian Center in the mid-1990s.



Harlan Kerr was the caller at the Foggy City Halloween Dance in 1984.

Dancing Around the Bay

Upcoming Opportunities for Mainstream and Plus Dancers
All are \$8 for Members and \$10 for Non-Members except as noted

November 3. 7:00 – 10:00 pm

The **Foggy City Dancers** will present their traditional **Anniversary Dance** caller, **Mike DeSisto**, at one of San Francisco's most outstanding dance venues, **The Unitarian Center**: 1187 Franklin St., San Francisco. Mike is famous for his *Move On* tips. The evening includes Mainstream commencement ceremony, A star tip, good music, good munchies, and good times.

November 10. 7:30 – 10:30 pm

Since **Michael Levy** was one of the instructors for FCD's special summer session of DBD/APD Plus classes, be sure to check out the **Trade by Fall** Plus and A2 dance with the **El Camino Reelers** at **St. Mark's Episcopal Church**: Parish Hall 600 Colorado Ave. Palo Alto. A C1 star tip will round out the evening. This one is not for Mainstream dancers.

December 1. 7:30 – 10:30 pm

A perennial holiday favorite is the **Diablo Dancers** fun-filled **Relay the Reindeer**. Don we now....Santa hats, antlers, elf ears and jingle bells. This year, **David Mee** will be calling amid the fabulous decorations at the **Jewish Community Center**: 2071 Tice Valley Blvd. Walnut Creek.

December 26. 7:00 - 9:30 pm WEDNESDAY

What to do between the holidays? Last year, the first ever **Inter-Club Holiday Square Dance Social** solved that problem. Fortunately, it has become an annual event. This one is for everybody. That includes you! Your local GCA callers take turns with Floor Level tips (MS class up to C3A). Everyone should join this once-a-year opportunity to mingle with all their friends from various clubs at **Eureka Valley Recreation Center**: 100 Collingwood, San Francisco. This community get-together is funded by donation. Pay what you can. Such a bargain!

Passing Through Suzie Wong 1955-2007

On September 25th, Peter Wong Passed away due to cancer. Locally famous as the Empress Suzie Wong, Peter had joined the Foggy City Dancers in the early years, and was a member of the FCD Performance Team. Suzie is remembered as a fund-raiser and benefactor to the community, and for her fabulous dance costumes. 📌



Above—Suzie in the 1980s. Right—At a dance in 2007.

WHO SAYS GAYS DON'T RECRUIT!?

WE NEED YOUR HELP BUILDING THE CLUB!

It's time to introduce new Recruits to our upcoming Mainstream class!

Our best advertising is word of mouth and Recruits brought in by Angels stay longer, dance better, and generally have more fun overall! We are counting on you to help Foggy City Dancers grow by bringing your friends and family to experience the joy and community of Square Dancing! As a special thanks, you and your Recruits will receive a **FREE MOVIE PASS** when you attend our Intro Nights.



Our first accelerated Mainstream class is going great, but we need more Angels to keep the momentum going as our new graduates move on to Plus. And we need a new group of Recruits for the next Mainstream class! Please join us during this exciting time!

FREE INTRO NIGHTS
TUESDAYS, NOV 27 & DEC 4

MAINSTREAM 7:00PM - 8:30PM
PLUS 8:30PM - 10:00PM



Forest Hill Christian Church 250 Laguna Honda Blvd

One block from Forest Hill Muni Station, which is one stop from Castro Station on the K, L, M or T. There is ample parking on site.

Questions? Email: President@FoggyCity.Org

